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## Hostilities Break Out Again In Negev Desert

### MONTH-OLD TRUCE ENDS

Tel-Aviv, Dec. 23.—Fighting flared up today in the Negev desert where a shaky truce between the Egyptians and the Jews has been in force since mid-November. An Israeli military spokesman confirmed Arab radio reports that hostilities began again last night in the Negev.

A war atmosphere has developed through Israel, but he said the fighting today had been on a small scale. He announced that Israeli ground and air forces took part in renewed clashes with Egyptian forces in the Nirim area of southern Palestine during the night.

The air forces on both sides had taken "limited action" dropping bombs on each other's forward positions, he added.

In Haifa, a United Nations spokesman said observers on the spot had reported Israeli Navy units shelling the coast at 8 p.m. yesterday. Observers were also said to have counted 16 bombs dropped on Gaza, the Northern Negev seat of the Arab "Palestine Government." The spokesman said tonight that observers in Southern Palestine had been ordered to investigate a triple complaint by the Egyptians.

## Another Shocking Air Disaster

Madrid, Dec. 23.—Twenty-seven persons were killed when an Iberian Airlines plane crashed into a mountain near Barcelona today. First reports said there were no survivors.

The plane, en route from Barcelona to Madrid, crashed in the Pando Sierra mountains in the province of Tarragona.

The bodies of the 24 passengers and three crew members were scattered over a wide area.

The crash was said to be the most serious in the history of the Iberian Company, which is controlled by the Spanish government. The plane was believed to have crashed because of poor visibility.

Heavy rains drenched rescue workers carrying bodies down the mountain. All the victims were believed to be Spanish and included four women and one young girl, United Press.

The Egyptians had complained that their Negev pocket at Faluja was under Jewish artillery and mortar fire and air bombardment yesterday, that their airport at El Arish was attacked by three Israeli planes and that a camp at Rafa and the village of Can Yunis was bombed.

The spokesman said the Egyptian Government had also sent a letter to the Security Council asking for "prompt and immediate action in view of a new violation of the truce by the Jews on December 22."

General William Riley, the United Nations Chief of Staff in Palestine, had informed the Jews that Egypt was now demanding that all troops be withdrawn from the Negev before armistice negotiations were opened.

The Israeli Government replied to General William Riley that the Government of Israel felt bound "to reserve its freedom of action to defend its territory" since the Egyptian Government had "changed its mind and was not now willing to take practical steps in the direction of peace."

### ISRAEL'S "CONCERN"

"The Government of Israel," said a letter to General Riley, "has been worried with concern the steady deterioration of the prospects of peace with Egypt. After the visit to the Middle East by Dr. Ralph Bunche, the United Nations acting mediator, the Government of Israel was prepared as a token of goodwill to order a start to be made in the evacuation of Egyptian forces en-

circled at Faluja (in the Negev)."

"A communication was made to that effect to Dr. Bunche on December 9. The Israeli Government understands that the Egyptian Government has now changed its mind and appears to be planning itself to a single clause in the resolution passed by the Security Council in order to undo the main purpose of the Security Council had in mind—the conclusion of an armistice as a first step towards peace.

"In view of the fact that the Egyptian Government has done nothing to indicate a desire to achieve a peaceful settlement even after the Israeli Government's expressed readiness in response to Dr. Bunche's appeal to release by stages the Egyptian surrounded at Faluja, the Government of Israel feels bound to reserve its freedom of action with a view to defending its territory and hastening the conclusion of peace," it said.

### GAZA SHELLED

Haifa, Dec. 23.—United Nations observers' reports from Gaza, received at Haifa truce headquarters, on Thursday stated that the Gaza coast was shelled on Wednesday evening by units of the Israeli Navy.

Gaza itself was bombed by the Israeli Air Force early on Thursday morning and observers counted 10 bombs dropped—one near the airfield.

Egyptian military authorities, on Thursday complained to the truce headquarters that Faluja was under artillery and mortar fire and had been bombed from the air. The observers are investigating the complaints.

A copy of a letter, sent by the Egyptian Government to the Security Council asking for "prompt and immediate action" in view of the "new truce violation" by Jewish troops on December 22, has been received here by Brig.-Gen. William E. Riley, UN Chief of Staff in Palestine.—Associated Press.

## Jews Sail For Israeli

Shanghai, Dec. 24.—Eight hundred and fifty-six Jews sailed this morning on board an International Refugee Organisation chartered vessel, the Wooster Victory, for Palestine in the first mass Jewish exodus from China.

The ship's destination is Italy, where the evacuees will proceed by other means to their new homes in Israel.

A second vessel, the Castel Bianco, is expected to arrive here to take another group of 800 Jewish refugees on or about January 2.

Poignant scenes were witnessed as families packed the warships to bid goodbye to sons and daughters and relatives. Approximately 6,000 Jews, or almost 60 per cent of Far Eastern Jewry, is reported to have registered for resettlement in Israel and they will be evacuated as ships become available.

Sincere thanks to the Chinese Government for the hospitality extended to the Jewish people was expressed by a spokesman of the departing evacuees today.

He said: "The Chinese Government welcomed Jewish displaced persons escaping from the horrors of Hitler's Germany and gave them sanctuary and a chance to re-establish themselves anew here. Jewry will not forget China's kindness at their time of need."

The Editor and his staff extend to their readers season's greetings and the wish that one and all will enjoy a Very Happy Christmas

## Reds On The Move In Tientsin Suburbs

Tientsin, Dec. 24.—Communist forces in the north-western suburbs of Tientsin have begun to move to the northeast, Chinese despatches last night said.

This follows a whole week of probing attacks around the city. In the southern district, the despatches added that the situation was slightly tense but the emergency airport located there has not yet been molested.

A high Nationalist officer told Chinese newspapers that the Communist problems have ended and troop movements from the northern outskirts and other localities were now expected.

This officer said the Nationalist claim to have recovered Nansang, in the northwestern suburb, followed a Communist redeployment.

### "LOCUST" ARMY

Meanwhile, a "locust" Nationalist army continued to throng Tientsin despite the overcrowded conditions of the metropolis. They are occupying all available accommodation.

The Municipal Government revealed that 50,000 labourers were being immediately pressed into service for assisting the city's defence works.

### Next Issue, Monday

The next issue of the Hongkong Telegraph will be at midday on Monday, December 27.

The Bureau of Social Affairs has received orders to organize and train regional first-aid and stretcher bearing corps besides the collection of comfort articles for troops "at the front."

The Chinese press admits fighting continued yesterday to the north of the city following a severe battle throughout the day, during which General Lin Piao's forces were alleged to have suffered considerable casualties. There was no mention of Nationalist losses.—Reuter.

### SUN FO CONVINCED

Nanking, Dec. 24.—"China can not rely on foreign aid 'to obtain the goal for which the government is fighting," Premier Sun Fo on Thursday night told the first session of his new cabinet. He said the "ultimate aim" of the war is peace.

Dr Sun mentioned no peace efforts and reminded his cabinet the government tried but failed to negotiate peace with the Communists after the Japanese war ended.

"It takes two sides to make war and the government alone cannot give up the use of military force," he said.—Associated Press.

## Your Holiday Weather

Weather prospects for the holiday week-end appear favourable, said the Royal Observatory this morning.

Pointing out the difficulty of forecasting for more than 24 hours at this time in this part of the world, the Observatory said, nevertheless, that indications are that the mist and drizzle which have been hanging over Hongkong are likely to disappear and we may see a bit of the sun.

The temperature is likely to be lower. For the past three weeks, the temperature has been above normal, and this period, described by the Observatory as "exceptional," is likely to change, cooler weather being anticipated.

## More Sanctions Imposed Against Netherlands

### INDIA & PAKISTAN

London, Dec. 23.—Two more Asian countries—India and Pakistan—today imposed their own sanctions against The Netherlands military action in Indonesia by banning Dutch planes from their airfields.

The Dutch supply routes to the East Indies were already limited by Ceylon's decision to close its ports and landing fields to ships and planes carrying troops or munitions and the Australian Waterside Workers' boycott of Dutch ships sailing to Indonesia.

The suspension of landing facilities to KLM (Royal Dutch Airlines) planes was announced in a New Delhi statement which said that India regards the Dutch "police action" in Java and Sumatra as a state of war between The Netherlands and the Republic of Indonesia.

The Pakistan Foreign Minister, Sir Zafarullah Khan, announced the ban in the Pakistan Parliament and said that if the Dutch did not call off their attack soon, Pakistan would "act in every diplomatic direction or any other direction open to the Government to mark its condemnation of the outrage committed against the people of Indonesia."

In Holland, KLM officials announced that tonight's regular flight to Batavia had been cancelled "for technical reasons." The KLM were understood to have made plans to operate without Calcutta and Colombo but would have to reconsider their whole position if Karachi could not be used. Pakistan's decision was unexpected.

A military spokesman at The Hague said today that troops were making good progress in Indonesia despite bad roads, boggy land and the "scorched earth" tactics of the Indonesian Republicans.

Advancing Dutch columns had linked up on a 65-kilometre wide front in Central Java at the important Republican towns of Mega and Jogyakarta, Surakarta, Bojale and Semarang.

According to observers in Batavia, the main Dutch strategy clearly aims at pushing the Indonesians into the mountains of Central Java.

In North Sumatra, Dutch forces have landed seaplanes on Lake Tobo, south of Medan, and occupied an airfield south of the lake.

### FIGHTING REVIEWED

A Dutch review of the first four days' fighting said heavy Republican resistance had been met at only two points, one in Southern and one in Central Java.

Reuter's Batavia correspondent cabled that reference to the capture or surrender of Republican troops has been notably absent from all Dutch communiques so far.

Some well-qualified independent observers who were in touch with the Republican Government before the Dutch action started believe the Republicans had a plan to maintain their forces intact as far as possible and that they had even sacrificed their much publicised scorched earth policy for this purpose.

Dutch troops today advanced 20 miles and occupied Maok, on Java's north coast in the first day of their westward offensive from Tangerang, near Batavia.

In the north of the neighbouring island of Sumatra, Dutch troops flown by flying boat to Lake Toba were reported to have pushed south to occupy Tarutung. Earlier they had occupied the airfield at Siborongborong, south of the lake.

Dutch troops crossed the former truce line after starting out from Padang, halfway down the west coast of Sumatra.

### "MOPPING UP"

The only mention in the Dutch communiques of the operations in Central Java—where the "police action" started on Saturday—was of mopping up operations around Sukakarta.

The Dutch review of military operations reported slight road-block resistance in many areas, the uncompleted destruction of others and some destruction by Republican forces evacuating towns.—Reuter.

### SOVIET CONDEMNATION

Paris, Dec. 23.—The Russian delegate, Mr. Jacob Malik, today asked the Security Council to condemn the Dutch attack in Indonesia as "unprovoked aggression" and a "breach of international peace."

"We consider the Security Council must order the Dutch 'troops' back," said Mr. Malik. "The Soviet Union suggests a Security Council committee consisting of all members. This committee would have the task of observing the Dutch retreat. It could also co-operate to regulate the conflict as a whole. The Soviet Union will present a draft resolution on this matter."

As the debate continued, the Dutch spokesman, Mr. J. H. van Royen, said in reply to a question about complying with the ceasefire: "We have already taken all important objectives we want to take."

A United States delegation is working behind the scenes to persuade the Dutch to release the imprisoned Republican leaders. The Dutch said they would not release the prisoners until they were ready to do so.

The Council session adjourned at 7.30 p.m. until 10.30 a.m. Friday.—United Press.

### TOWN DESTROYED

Paris, Dec. 23.—Indonesian Republican sources who heard the secret Republican radio in Indonesia reported today that Dutch bombs have completely destroyed Bukittinggi, Sumatra.—United Press.

## Wot! At This Time Of The Year?

London, Dec. 23.—By making habitual toppers bluish every time they swallow a glass of wine, beer or spirits, Dr O. Mariensen Larsen, of Copenhagen, thinks he has found a cure for alcoholism.

The bluish, as deep as one which might come to a teetotaler caught drinking on the sly, is caused by the drug antiabuse, an article in the Lancet said.

Dr Larsen treated 33 patients with this drug last year and got promising results in 74 cases. Besides the blushing, the drug causes "pallidness, nausea and a 'hangover' headache." But these are claimed to be only transient and the patient eventually loses all desire and taste for alcohol.

So far, said Dr Larsen, it is not possible to tell how long the results will last or whether ill effects might follow the continued use of the drug. So he is investigating further.—Reuter.

## Madame To Stay On In U.S.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Madame Chiang Kai-shek, who flew here early this month on an urgent mission to obtain help for her husband's Chinese Nationalist Regime, has taken up quarters in Washington for an indefinite stay.

Reporters found her on Thursday established at the Washington home of her brother, Dr T. V. Soong, one-time Finance Minister of the Nationalist Government.

Mrs George Marshall, wife of the Secretary of State had disclosed earlier that the Generalissimo's wife moved out of the Marshall Leoburg home on Monday after a three-week stay. Mr Marshall said she is closing up the Leoburg home and moving into Walter Reed Hospital to spend the holidays with her husband, who is recovering from an operation.

"Madame Chiang's mission to Washington has not been completed and she hopes to finish it after the first of the year," a person close to her said.

### FURTHER DISCUSSION

He indicated she hopes to have further discussions with Government officials about aid for China, but declined to indicate with whom she hopes to talk.

Prior to Madame Chiang's taking up residence at her brother's home in a fashionable part of Washington, the house was newly furnished, apparently in preparation for her arrival.

A second source said that when the Generalissimo's wife came to Washington on December 1 "she hoped her stay here would be short." Asked when she might be leaving, this person said "she may be home by Chinese New Year." That is during the first part of February.

Spending the New Year holidays with Madame Chiang are Dr and Mrs H. H. Kung, Madame Kung is Madame Chiang's sister. Dr Kung is a former Premier of the Chinese Government. He is temporarily in New York on business, for his Government.—Associated Press.

## EDITORIAL

### High-Hatted Nonsense

WE have several times complained about the tendency in certain Government departments to treat the Press as though it were an infernal nuisance and unfit for human contact. On the one hand information, when given at all, is offered reluctantly, and quite often has to take the form of a written reply through the PRO which prevents the Press from asking supplementary questions. This is but a mild form of obstructionism. Much more serious is the determination on the part of some officials to assert an authority with which they are not invested and endeavour to intimidate pressmen from carrying out their duties. This is not only obnoxious, but should be the subject of a definite instruction from the Colonial Secretary that the practice must cease. An example of the autocratic manner in which some Government officials attempt to deal with the newspapers was given this week in connection with the air disaster at Basalt Island. The Director of Air Services apparently became incensed to see pressmen at the scene of the accident the day after it had occurred and expressed the opinion that he would find out how they managed to get there. He then proceeded to deny press photographers access to the scene of the crash. As to how the press representatives and the photographers arrived at Basalt Island we fall to see what business it is of the Director of Air Services. They may have gone by private launch, wallawalla, or on foot. As Government launch, it is the first time we were aware that the DOAS possesses any control or authority over harbour craft, nor do we appreciate where he obtains the right to say

that pressmen should not visit Basalt Island, or, for that matter, any other island in Hongkong waters, without his permission. As for preventing press photographers from taking pictures of the wreckage the Director of Air Services is obviously exceeding his duty and his authority. It is appreciated that the DOAS has work to perform when an air crash occurs within the borders of Hongkong; so too have the Press. The Director's task is to investigate and submit a report to his official superiors. The pressman has to investigate and submit a report to the general public. And the sooner some Government officials realise that newspapersmen are trying to do a job for which they are not trained and paid, and for which the general public purchase the papers, the sooner there will be more harmonious relations between the Press and officialdom. Newspapersmen are not assigned to jobs for the purpose of obstructing or intimidating officials, and by the same token they should not be subjected to these humiliating experiences at the hands of individuals who are entitled to go to their heads. Neither the local Press nor the agency and foreign correspondents in Hongkong are irresponsible in the fulfilment of their duties, but when they run up against high-hatted officialdom attempting to impose them from doing their job properly, it is the first time we are blamed if the public have to go short of all the facts. With the new year approaching, the time seems appropriate to have settled once and for all the rights of local pressmen in the carrying out of their duties, and thus avoid unpleasant repetition of the Basalt Island nonsense.

*Grenley's*

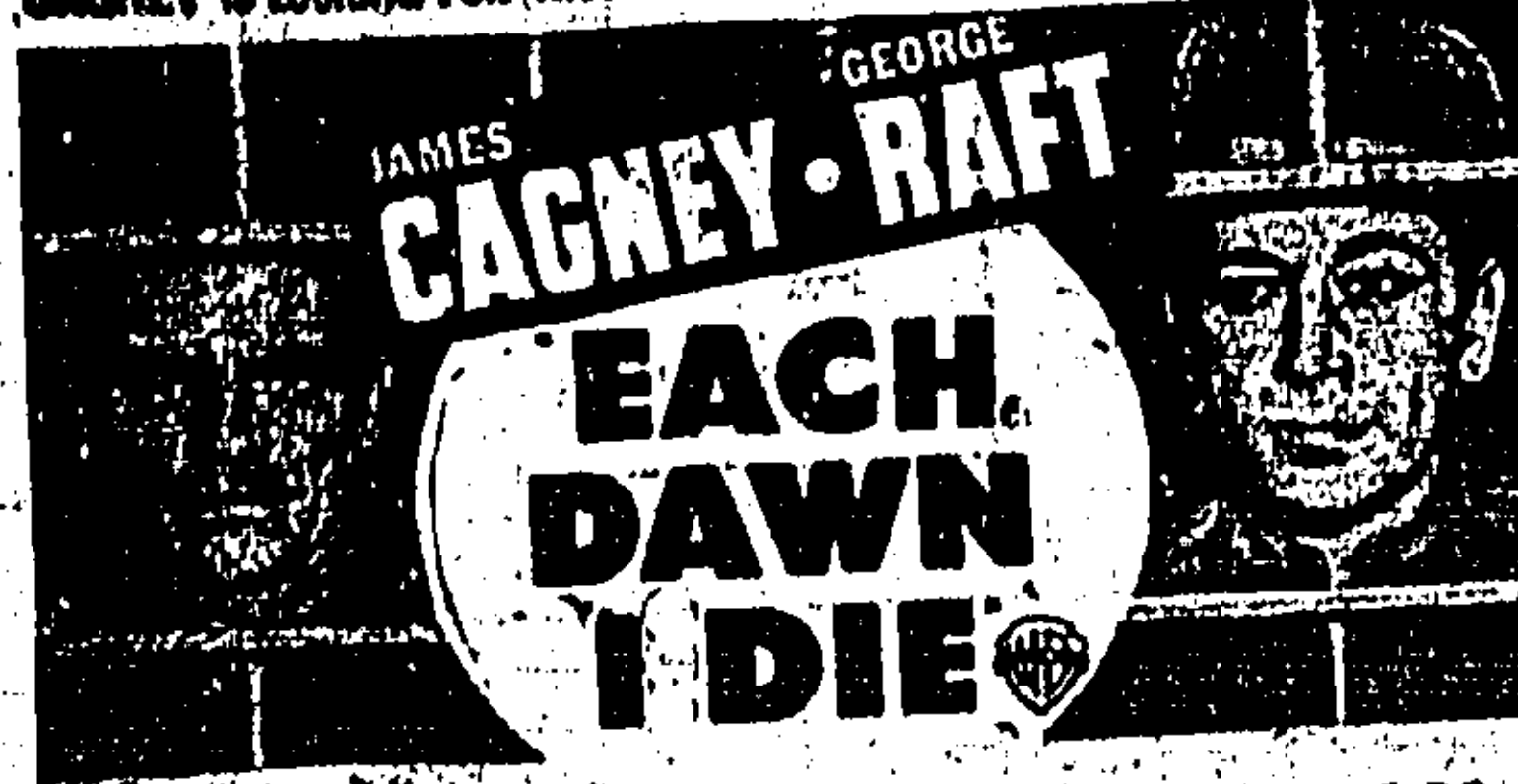


## Greetings for Christmas and New Year



TO-DAY ONLY **Queens** At 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 p.m.

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## Milestones In British Film Production

By ROGER MAXWELL

THE cinema world has just entered its second half-century. Many nations rightly claim a share in its mechanical invention, notably Britain, France, and America.

In the first years of commercial film production (which began as early as 1895-1896) Britain produced large quantities of short films which were sold all over the world. Her pioneer producers included Cecil Hepworth, R. W. Paul and George Albert Smith.

The latter patented the first satisfactory colour-film process in 1908 (Kinemacolor), and the Delhi Durbar of August 1911 was filmed by means of this process.

World War I enforced the decline of British cinema, and the Americans, who, by this time, had begun to build up their world market from California, came to the top: the great period of American cinema then opened. The problem for Britain was to begin all over again in the face of the established Hollywood studios.

**Producers Protected**

Production was very small until legislation was introduced in 1927 (the first Quota Act) to protect the British producer by legally obliging cinemas to show a proportion of British-made films. Beginning at five percent of the total shown, this proportion has never yet risen beyond about 20 percent.

The rest of the films shown in Britain and the Commonwealth (excluding India and Pakistan) with their well-developed home production of films) were, and still are, almost entirely American.

But during the past 20 years, and notably during the past ten, British production has revived strongly. During the 1930's, British documentary developed, not as film making for the commercial cinema, but as part of Britain's Government public information services and of

various industrial concerns, notably Shell oil and the gas industry. Free from the need to provide entertainment for box-office reasons, the documentary film-makers concentrated on making clearer to the citizen a number of difficult subjects (health, housing, food, agriculture, industrial problems and processes and education), were paid for by their sponsors; they were shown rarely in the cinemas, but mostly to widespread private audiences and to groups in educational establishments. When, in 1940, Britain's Government decided to use films and social training necessary in wartime, she found this established documentary movement ready to hand, and well trained to produce at once the much-needed films.

Over 700 films of this kind were made during World War II, and since then production under Britain's Central Office of Information has led to the same kind of output, though now on a smaller scale than during World War II.

The present-day production of films in Britain, therefore, must always be regarded as of two main kinds, documentary films produced mainly by the Government as part of a big-scale programme for youth and adult education in most branches of knowledge and entertainment films produced commercially to be shown in Britain's 4,750 cinemas and increasingly abroad.

**Nation Of Film-Fans**

For the home cinema the undertaking is on a huge scale. Britain is a nation of cinema-goers. The number of seats sold in a week has on occasion risen to over 30 million, and even in the hottest weather seldom sinks below 22 million.

Far from the British producers requiring any further protection from the competition of the American film, in the past five years Britain's pictures have become the biggest successes of all

at the box-office. The old disadvantage that British actors and actresses could never become stars unless they first appeared in American films now no longer applies, for Britain's pictures are penetrating the world market with the result that her stars are becoming as well known as the Americans.

Britain's annual output of full-length feature films has averaged little more than 50 since World War II. More than usual stress, however, has been laid on their quality.

**"Prestige" Pictures**

The Rank Organisation is the biggest single factor in British films. It owns nearly half Britain's studio space and over 600 cinemas, as well as large international interests in cinema-ownership and distribution of films abroad.

Within its framework several small, individual companies make films of different kinds, which range from romantic costume films to those films which are most out of the ordinary, like "Hamlet" and "Oliver Twist". Many productions of the past five years have been made at a cost exceeding what can be retrieved from the home market in the hope that they will assist to create an interest in and respect for British films overseas.

These costly films are called "prestige" pictures, but the policy of the Rank Organisation is that these expensive films must not be produced in future. The need of British cinemas will be for an increase in the number of films made, and, therefore, it will be necessary to reduce the time they take in the studios.

On the other hand, Sir Alexander Korda's London Film Productions also embrace a number of units, and he is equally interested in working for a world market. His organisation is relatively new, and he is concentrating on making the larger scale kind of feature film, such as "Anna Karenina". The other main British production company, British National, makes pictures mostly for the home market.



JEAN SIMMONS, fresh from her success as Ophelia in Sir Laurence Olivier's film version of "Hamlet", smiles Christmas greetings to Hongkong Telegraph readers.

## GREAT MOMENTS, BUT NOT GREAT SCOTT

By John Prebble

FILMGOERS have simple souls. They take on trust as great a film which is ushered in by way of a Royal Command Performance, garnished with red plush, roses, 52 programmes, a glittering stage show, and a police cordon.

This is what happened with "Scott of the Antarctic". The film, which will not be generally released until December 30, is entertaining, sometimes thrilling, but far from great.

Which is a pity, for it has a noble subject. There are great moments. To use Technicolor was largely a mistake—it makes the Antarctic look too warm—but occasionally you are stirred by steel-black seas, blue ice, pink skins of drifting snow, the glow of a spirit lamp, beneath flapping canvas.

There are occasions, too, when the sport of frobitite on men's cheeks, and their gangrenous injuries, and Scott's words: "Good God, what an awful place!" will take you out of your seats.

Where the dialogue is taken straight from Scott's diary—it has

the simple majesty of fine prose, which makes it hard on those who had to fill in the gaps.

But the film falls down in the presentation of its characters. Onkes, Bowers, Wilson and Evans, for all the competent acting, never really come to life.

When John Mills is able to persuade us that we are looking at Scott he is splendid.

But in the main we are expected to share the juvenile and naive belief that a group of men can be isolated in such a lonely spot and never raise their voices in anger, never develop those terrible and unaccountable hatreds that afflict a celibate community, never, in fact, be anything but Britons with stiff Upper Lips.

I would not want the film to malign Scott and his men, but I would like it to show me that to conquer the Pole these men had also to conquer themselves.

If they had not done that how else could we explain the spirit of their last messages home?



**O-OMPH puts on spectacles**

by DAVID LEWIN

THOSE heavy, horn-rimmed spectacles are intended as a warning. There is to be no similarity between Ann Sheridan, "comph pioneer," and Ann Sheridan, actress.

At 33 Miss Sheridan, with the red gold hair—not quite as red as ten years ago—few into London recently with the view that glamour is hardly an insurance for staying in pictures.

Miss Sheridan's way of putting it is this: "There have been three phases in my film career—and the phases are, playing comedy and to blazes with the oomph, is by far the most satisfying."

"PHASE ONE was in 1930, when they decided I was a beauty and promoted me accordingly, starting with 'Dodge City'."

Phase One jacked up her salary from £250 to more than £600 a week—and got her name in big type. Oomph rescued her from being hard up, she says, but she was still miserable, artistically frustrated.

PHASE TWO began when she agitated for an acting chance, and got it—with "King's Row" in 1942. The phase lasted five years. She says: "I was playing in drama and acting at last. I suffered for my art—in and out of corsets. But I was more satisfied."

And then Ann Sheridan went into a comedy with Gary Cooper in "Good Sam"—not yet released to British audiences. That was the start of PHASE THREE.

"And it's the phase I want to stay," she says. "I'm a one-woman trade union—for the protection of Sheridan."

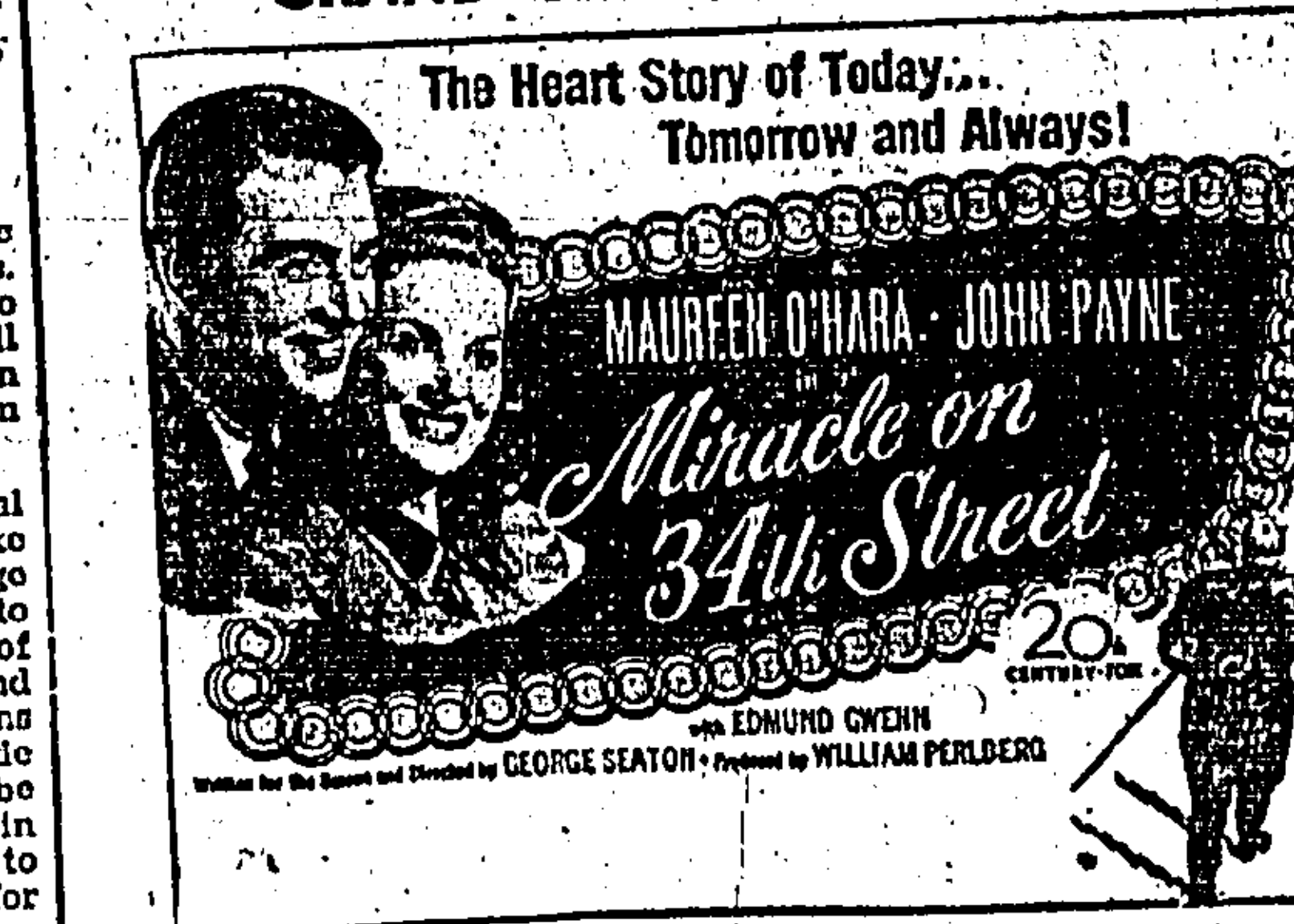
In Britain Ann is getting down to work on "I Was a Male War Bride" with Gary Grant. It will be Comedy No. 2, Phase 3.

It raises this important question for Ann: "Should I wear a negligee in this film—or will people think I'm slipping back to Phase One? Let 'em think it!"

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Sunday: Laurel and Hardy in "BULL FIGHTERS"

Monday: "LASSIE COMES HOME!"

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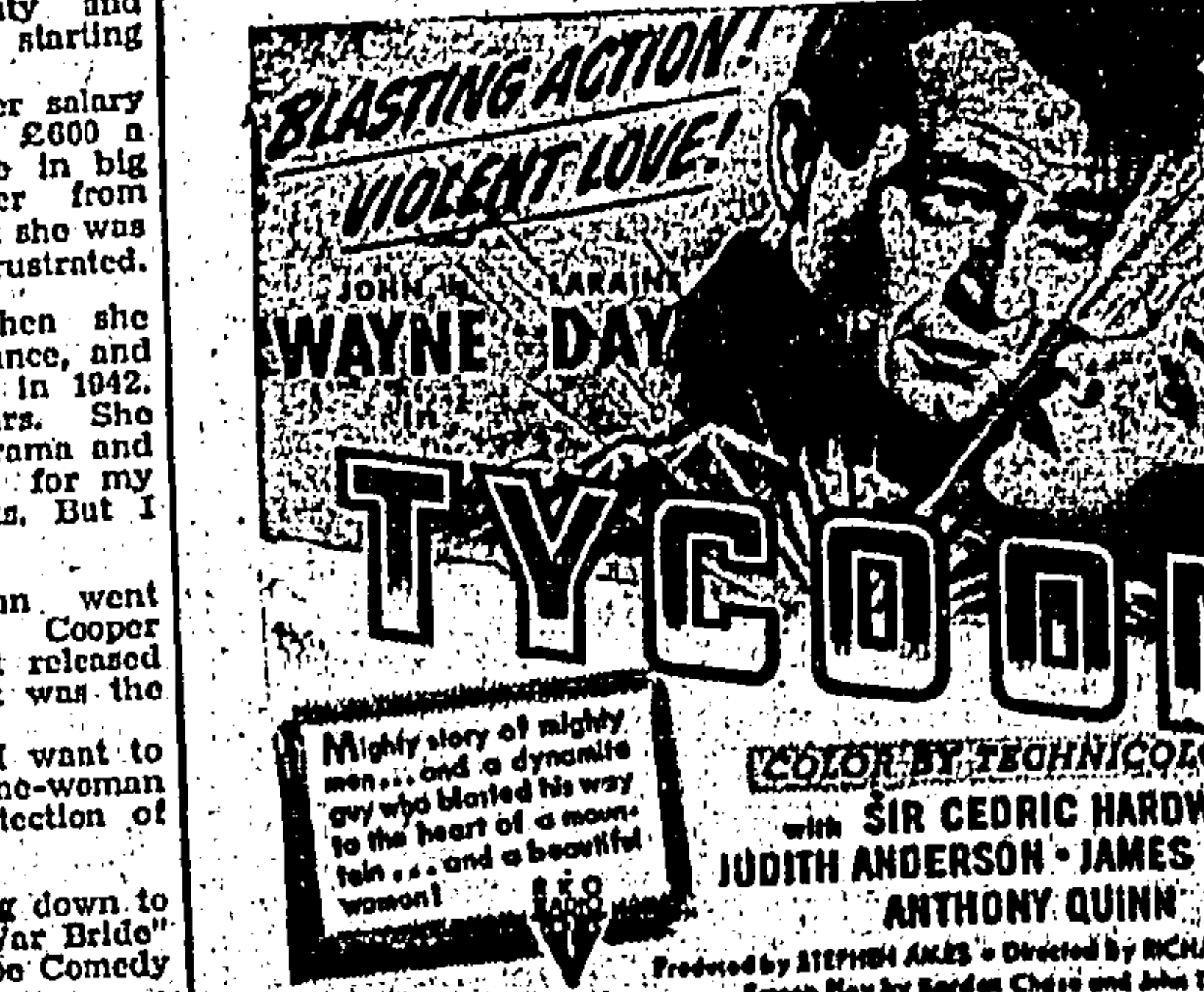
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Technicolor Spectacle in the Towering Andes Mountains

**TYCOON**



TO-MORROW EXTRA PERFORMANCE "BLACK NARCISSUS"







# BBC Overseas Shortwave Programmes

SUNDAY, DEC. 26

6.00 WEEKLY NEWSLETTER  
6.15 BILLY MAYNELL  
and his Music  
6.25 ENGLISH MAGAZINE  
7.00 THE NEWS  
7.10 INTERLUDE  
7.15 NIGHTS AT THE OPERA  
(Gramophone records)  
8.00 FROM THE EDITORIALS  
8.15 "ITMA"  
Christmas Edition  
8.45 LIFE IN BRITAIN  
9.00 THE NEWS  
9.15 INTERLUDE  
9.30 MELODY TIME  
Gerald and his Concert Orchestra  
10.00 RADIO NEWSREEL  
10.15 CONCERTO  
A series of weekly programmes  
Vivaldi and Bach  
Concerto in A minor for four pianos  
and strings (Vivaldi, arr. Bach)  
Concerto in D minor for three pianos  
and strings (Bach), played by Kathleen  
Beardon, Catherine Shephard, Wanda  
Henderson, Robert Irving, and the BBC  
Scottish Orchestra, conductor, Ian Whyte.  
Programme also includes Chaconne in G  
minor for strings (Puccini, arr. Willaker)  
and The Water Music (Handel, arr.  
Harty)  
11.20 INTERLUDE  
11.30 FROM THE CHILDREN'S HOUR  
Message by Derek McCulloch (Uncle  
Mac) from Children at Home to Children  
Overseas; Christmas Story; Uncle Mac's  
Christmas Carol  
12.00 THE NEWS

MONDAY, DEC. 27

6.30 A Celebration by  
THE KENTUCKY MINSTRELS  
of their Hundredth Performance  
A black-faced Minstrel show. Guest  
artist: Edric Connor. The Augmented BBC  
Revolution Orchestra and Male Voice Chorus  
conducted by Leslie Woodgate. At the  
organ: Charles Smart. Book written and  
remembered by C. Denier Warren.  
Choral arrangement by Denis Arnold.  
The show devised and produced by Harry  
H. Pepper  
7.00 THE NEWS  
7.10 INTERLUDE  
7.15 CHRISTMAS HANDSTAND  
7.45 JOYCE GREENFELT  
8.00 INTERLUDE  
8.15 SPORTING RECORD  
8.45 BRITISH INDUSTRY  
A talk by William Holt  
9.00 INTERLUDE  
9.15 SOUTH AFRICA V. M.C.C. THE  
SECOND CRICKET TEST MATCH  
A commentary by John Arlott on the  
first day's play at Johannesburg  
9.45 ROSS PRATT  
(Canadian pianist)  
10.00 RADIO NEWSREEL  
10.15 "WATERLOGGED SPA"  
Christmas Edition  
10.45 BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
11.30 His Hearted Arthur invites you to  
"ARTHUR ASKEW'S CHRISTMAS  
SHOW"  
with Anthea Askey, Richard Murdoch.  
Dance Orchestra, conducted by Stanley  
Black  
12.00 THE NEWS

TUESDAY, DEC. 28

6.00 SCIENCE REVIEW  
6.15 LIGHT MUSIC  
(Gramophone records)  
6.30 MUSIC WHILE YOU WORK  
7.00 THE NEWS  
7.15 MUSIC FROM GRAND HOTEL  
The Palm Court Orchestra Directed by  
Tom Jenkins Janet Howe (mezzo-soprano)  
7.45 THINK ON THESE THINGS  
8.00 FROM THE EDITORIALS  
8.15 TO TOWN WITH TERRY  
Christmas edition with Ruth Dunning,  
April May, and June other well-known  
personalities, and Terry Thomas BBC  
Variety Orchestra Conductor: Rae  
Jenkins  
8.45 BRITISH FARMER  
Looking to 1949, by A. G. Street  
9.00 THE NEWS  
9.15 SOUTH AFRICA V. M.C.C. THE  
SECOND CRICKET TEST MATCH  
A commentary by John Arlott on the  
second day's play at Johannesburg  
9.45 ANNE SHELTON  
Introducing Anne Shilton  
10.00 RADIO NEWSREEL  
10.15 VARIETY BANDON  
11.20 INTERLUDE  
11.30 NEW RECORDS  
Presented by Robert Tredinnick  
12.00 THE NEWS

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 29

6.00 REPORT FROM BRITAIN  
6.15 SANDY MACHESON AT THE  
THEATRE ORGAN  
6.30 MUSIC WHILE YOU WORK  
7.00 THE NEWS  
7.15 BBC MIDLAND LIGHT ORCHES-  
TRA

8.45 FROM THE EDITORIALS  
8.15 HANDS WITHIN HANDS  
The Jack White Collection from Jack  
White's Orchestra  
8.30 VARIETY CALLS THE TUNE  
BBC Variety Orchestra Conductor: Rae  
Jenkins with Robert Irwin  
9.00 THE NEWS  
9.15 SOUTH AFRICA V. M.C.C. THE  
SECOND CRICKET TEST MATCH  
A commentary by John Arlott on the  
third day's play at Johannesburg  
9.45 JEAN MERLOW AND JANETTA  
McTAY  
at two pianos  
10.00 RADIO NEWSREEL  
10.15 BAND PARADE  
11.20 INTERLUDE  
11.30 HOURS TO READ  
11.45 THE THEATRE IN LONDON  
A talk by W. Macquhen Pope  
12.00 THE NEWS

THURSDAY, DEC. 30

6.00 BALANCE OF EUROPE  
6.15 ORCHESTRAL MUSIC OF  
TCHAIKOVSKY  
(Gramophone records)  
6.30 MUSIC WHILE YOU WORK  
7.00 THE NEWS  
7.15 STAR VARIETY  
with The Radio Revellers and Donald  
Peers. Introduced by Derek Baker  
7.30 THE NEW ORCHESTRA  
Conductor: Manuel Thomas  
8.00 FROM THE EDITORIALS  
8.15 THEATRE AT THE SHORE  
8.45 OBSERVATION POST  
9.00 THE NEWS  
9.15 SOUTH AFRICA V. M.C.C. THE  
SECOND CRICKET TEST MATCH  
A commentary by John Arlott on the  
fourth day's play at Johannesburg  
9.45 ACCORDION CLUB  
9.00 RADIO NEWSREEL  
10.15 HITS FROM THE HALL  
New London Orchestra conducted and  
presented by Alec Sherman Overture:  
"Hallelujah" Humperdinck's "Hallelujah"  
Arnold's "Hallelujah" No. 4 (The  
Italian) Mendelssohn  
11.20 INTERLUDE  
11.30 THE BRAINS TRUST  
Resident Team: Collin Brooks, Kingsley  
Martin, and William Harris. Question-  
Master: Gilbert Harding  
12.00 THE NEWS

FRIDAY, DEC. 31

6.00 SPECIAL DISPATCH  
6.15 BOOKS TO READ  
6.30 MUSIC WHILE YOU WORK  
7.00 THE NEWS  
7.15 QUEEN'S HALL LIGHT ORCHES-  
TRA  
Conductor: Sidney Torch  
8.00 FROM THE EDITORIALS  
8.15 JAZZ CLUB  
8.45 LOOKING AT BRITAIN  
9.00 THE NEWS  
9.15 BBC SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA  
Conductor: Sir Adrian Boult Symphony  
No. 4, Brahms  
10.00 RADIO NEWSREEL  
10.15 "LOINSTER FEVER"  
11.20 INTERLUDE  
11.30 SCOTTISH MAGAZINE  
12.00 THE NEWS

SATURDAY, JAN. 1

6.00 WORLD AFFAIRS  
6.15 THE THEATRE IN LONDON  
A talk by W. Macquhen Pope  
6.30 MUSIC WHILE YOU WORK  
7.00 THE NEWS  
7.15 KATHLEEN MCQUITY AND  
HENRY WILSON  
at two pianos  
7.30 Kim Peacock and Marjorie West-  
bury. "THE TEMPLE AND THE  
PRISON CASE"  
A serial in eight episodes by Francis  
Durbridge. Episode 2: "Welcome to Dul-  
worth House"  
8.00 FROM THE EDITORIALS  
8.15 MONTEVERDI  
8.30 "MUCH-BINDING-IN-THE-MARSH"  
9.00 THE NEWS  
9.15 END OF THE YEAR REVIEW—  
HIGHLIGHTS OF 1948  
Commentary: Wynford Vaughan-Thomas  
9.45 ORCHESTRAS OF THE WORLD  
10.00 RADIO NEWSREEL  
10.15 DANCE MUSIC  
(Gramophone records)  
10.30 SOUTH AFRICA V. M.C.C. THE  
THIRD CRICKET TEST MATCH  
A commentary by John Arlott on the first  
day's play at Cape Town  
11.00 SATURDAY SPORT  
Football: Bristol Rovers v. Notts County.  
Commentary: F. N. S. Creck. (Pro-  
gramme announcements and music in-  
cluded in this period)  
12.00 THE NEWS



"I seem to remember a lot of brave talk this morning about not having a drink with the boys and coming home early to help us."

## THE TELEGRAPH PRESENTS TODAY THE FIRST INSTALMENT OF A MASTERFUL CHARACTER STUDY OF THE SOVIET DICTATOR

# THE REAL STALIN

By EMIL LUDWIG

One man has had the entire world in an almost constant state of jittery uneasiness since the heyday of Adolf Hitler. That man is Josef Stalin.

Once proud nation-builders in mortal terror of his next move, Others are already so subservient that they virtually have lost their identities. Still others—primarily the United States—are rearing with an eye on the unpredictable tomorrow.

What makes Stalin behave the way he does? What manner of man is this who holds within his hands more power than Caesar did, and whose designs strike such fear in the hearts of his fellow men?

Here is the most remarkable and penetrating study of Josef Stalin ever written. Penetrated by the brilliant dean of modern biography, Emil Ludwig, this masterful profile of the Soviet dictator tells the inside story of the real Stalin—and why he enjoys his role today as one of history's greatest enigmas.

Famous the world over for his biographical masterpieces on Napoleon, Bismarck and others, Ludwig completed this manuscript in July of this year. It turned out to be the last published work of the famous biographer, who died suddenly at his home in Ascona, Switzerland, on September 17.



JOSEF STALIN—A RECENT PICTURE

**F**IRST of all you must imagine a strong-looking, but rather thick-set man about whom everything seems heavy and slow; his carriage, his gait, his gestures, and his speech.

Everything about him seems stand-offish, coldly calculating, cautious—and most of it has a somber effect on his visitors.

The impression which Joseph Stalin makes on all Europeans who meet him—including all Russians (to whom he, racially, does not belong)—is that of outlandishness. Americans feel that, of course, even more strongly.

I talked to Stalin for three solid hours, sitting opposite him and he did not look at me once. He seems to be a man without nerves, or at any rate a man able to control his nerves to a degree altogether uncanny. He is taciturn and patient.

Were his character as a whole different, those characteristics could have made him a statesman and popular leader of the stature of the late Thomas G. Masaryk (founder of the Czechoslovak Republic after World War I).

But unlike Masaryk, Stalin is no philosopher. Stalin is a man filled to the brim with hidden passions; and therefore his life has taken a course quite different from that of the Czech statesman.

When you recall the most remarkable man you've ever met in your own life, you may find one who had both patience and a passionate disposition—and you will remember that the very combination of those two traits was bound to put that man into conflict with his surroundings.

**AN ASIATIC**

WE know from hundreds of studies that such reticent and slow men who may nevertheless "explode" at any moment, are nowhere as frequent as among Asiatics.

Stalin is an Asiatic. Imagine, then, such a buttoned-up, lonely figure usually in a grey tunic without any ribbon or medal, and never carrying a weapon; imagine his low forehead, the Mongol cut of his grey eyes, his tight-lipped mouth which sometimes holds a pipe burning about as slowly as he talks, and his hollow, never-loud voice, and you'll have a pretty accurate picture of what Stalin looks like.

He was born, almost seventy years ago, in a wretched four-room brick house which you feel you can blow down when you stand in front of it. The upper parts of its walls are covered with rough boards which are just as uneven as the one stone step of the entrance door.

This little house stands in a small provincial town of the Caucasus region, whose name is about as tongue-twisting as that of Stalin's original family name. Practically all Russian communist leaders of his generation adopted aliases. In one of those four rooms Stalin's father, a cobbler, had his workshop, while the adjoining room

served as a kitchen for his wife when she came home at night from her factory work.

There were some chickens, in the small yard, and probably a cow, too.

In that environment, the child learned something about minor peasant chores. But the whole atmosphere was entirely proletarian—and that, in those days, was tantamount to a life without any hope.

**FATHER-A-SERF**

FOR in the Province of Georgia, and the Black Sea, only the sons of property owners who were in a position to pay for the schooling of their offspring could get anywhere in life.

For the poor persons could even hope, with some luck, to gain a certain amount of equality with the ruling class of the military-minded Georgian aristocracy which, in turn, was subservient to the Russian Boyars (petty nobles) and Grand-Dukes.

There was no such thing as a peasant let alone a cobbler, owning land himself. Stalin's father, born before 1862, had been a serf. And so he told his son.

When that youngster once visited Tiflis, the nearby capital of the province, he could watch the noblemen and their fur-wrapped ladies ride past him in their carriages drawn by three horses abreast.

He could watch the lackey sitting beside the coachman on the box in his gold-braided scarlet livery and keeping his arrogant eyes on the urinals, lest they annoy the horses. The natural defiance of the adolescent must have felt soon bred in him a deep grudge against the ruling class—and these sentiments could well have turned him into an ordinary criminal.

But the ardent wish of his mother gave another turn to his life.

A cousin of hers happened to know the principal of a religious seminary in Tiflis, and through that relative she beseeched the principal to take an interest in her boy. She succeeded.

**THE SEMINARY**

SURELY it was the most rewarding morning of her troubled life when she was allowed to cross the threshold of the seminary with her fourteen-year-old son, and hand him over to the Greek Orthodox priest in charge of it, her eyes filled with gratitude and pleading.

Now, that seminary was not exactly a monastic place offering idyllic peace. Actually, students' revolts had occurred time and again there. For about a hundred years a spirit of rebellion had been alive in the classes the students came from in that region.

With the young fellow who on that morning stepped over the threshold of the seminary that spirit was to assume the stature of a world-shaking movement.

Whenever I met a statesman who was a revolutionary—whether it was Mussolini, the blacksmith's son, or Roosevelt, the scion of

financiers—I would ask him what early experiences may have prompted him to break away from his own class.

The late President Masaryk (founder of Czechoslovakia), who had been born the son of a coachman on a Hapsburg estate, told me that it was the high-handed manner in which the Bohemian aristocrats treated his father that first aroused his great resentment.

As I asked Stalin the same question, he made a startling answer. "No," he said, "it was not the lowly station of my parents which made me a socialist. I had no such feelings when I was six, or for that matter, even when I reached the age of twelve."

**EXPULSED AT 18**

"I became a socialist only when the discipline of the seminary aroused my indignation. That place teemed with spies, and there was no end to deceitful tricks."

"While we had our morning tea, the tutors would rummage about in our drawers and papers in the dormitories. And quite similarly, they would, in their never-ending suspicions, rummage about in our souls."

"That was the thing I couldn't stand. It turned me into a rebel. When the first illegal socialist agents came to the Caucasus, and I happened to get hold of one of their leaflets, I said to myself, 'I want to know the man who has written this stuff.'"

"One of the students managed to get a copy of Karl Marx's 'Capital,' and secretly we all read it."

No wonder that Stalin was expelled from the seminary when he was eighteen years old.

Later, the whole of Soviet Russia was to celebrate Stalin's expulsion from the seminary as a day of national rejoicing.

Only one person has always denied that there was any truth in the story.

"When it once was read to her long after her boy had become the country's dictator, the octogenarian mother of Stalin violently challenged that account. She declared that her son never was expelled, and that she had taken him home from school only because all that studying had undermined his health."

"He was a good boy, and surely they never expelled him!" she said.

**CONSPIRATOR'S LIFE**

AFTER having left the seminary Stalin then left his parents' house and the province. He started on his conspirator's life.

That part of his career is more sombre than anything in the early experiences of other contemporary dictators.

becomes known to the world, and who more often than not, has to use aliases such as "Sosso" or "Koba" instead of "Stalin"—it is only natural that such a man comes to bear a grudge toward his more fortunate comrades and gets gloomier with every year that goes by without any change in his situation.

When, after the revolution of 1905, the various political factions came into being, Stalin was stationed chiefly for some years in the oil region of Baku. He was occupied with organising Russian workers through lectures and the distribution of pamphlets. At the same time he was indoctrinating the peasants with the Marxist principle that they could liberate themselves only under the leadership of organised labour.

**SIBERIAN EXILE**

"THE labour meetings, starting late, ended always at a very late hour," one of Stalin's companions of these days reminisces, "and then Stalin would go to one of the two taverns that kept open till 2 a.m. He would have some tea, and rove the streets to wait for the first regular tavern to open at 4 a.m."

"There he would have some tea again, take a nap on a wooden bench till seven, and then rest at the place of some 'comrade'."

He had done much reading in the long nights of his Siberian exile. There is a story about Stalin reading Marx to one of his guards until the soldier fell asleep; then slipping out long enough to go fishing.

Siberian fishing and hunting have restored the shattered health of many a future Russian leader. That is true of Gorki, Trotsky, Kallinin, and—later—some of the marshals. By seeping his mortal enemies into exile, the czar sent them also to a kind of sanitarium.

Stalin had already accumulated much knowledge and gone through many experiences when he first read some of Lenin's secretly published writings. He was greatly impressed by them.

**GREAT MOMENT**

WHEN, as a man of twenty-five, he met the thirty-five-year-old Lenin in Finland, it was a great moment in Stalin's life.

"I am nothing but a disciple of Lenin, and don't want to be regarded as anything else," he said to me many years after Lenin's death. And contrary to his habit, he even repeated these words.

When I asked him whether he abroad did not estrange the original generation of revolutionary leaders from their native country, he heaped all his scorn upon those men who used to have a good time beyond the border, learning nothing.

But he explicitly excluded Lenin, and also proved his point; Stalin can prove everything, even the absurd.

Stalin always talks with much reverence about Lenin, though real enthusiasm is alien to his nature. "I was greatly surprised," he told me, "at Lenin's habit of joining meetings ahead of the rest of the important people, and talking things over with the little delegates."

"Great men usually arrive late on such occasions to lighten the effect of their entry."

"Lenin's modesty and simple manners struck me from the very beginning."

**IMPRESSES LENIN**

"His obvious wish to remain in the conspicuous and never to show his superiority was one of his greatest charms; it appealed to the simple nature of the masses who assumed their political role in those days."

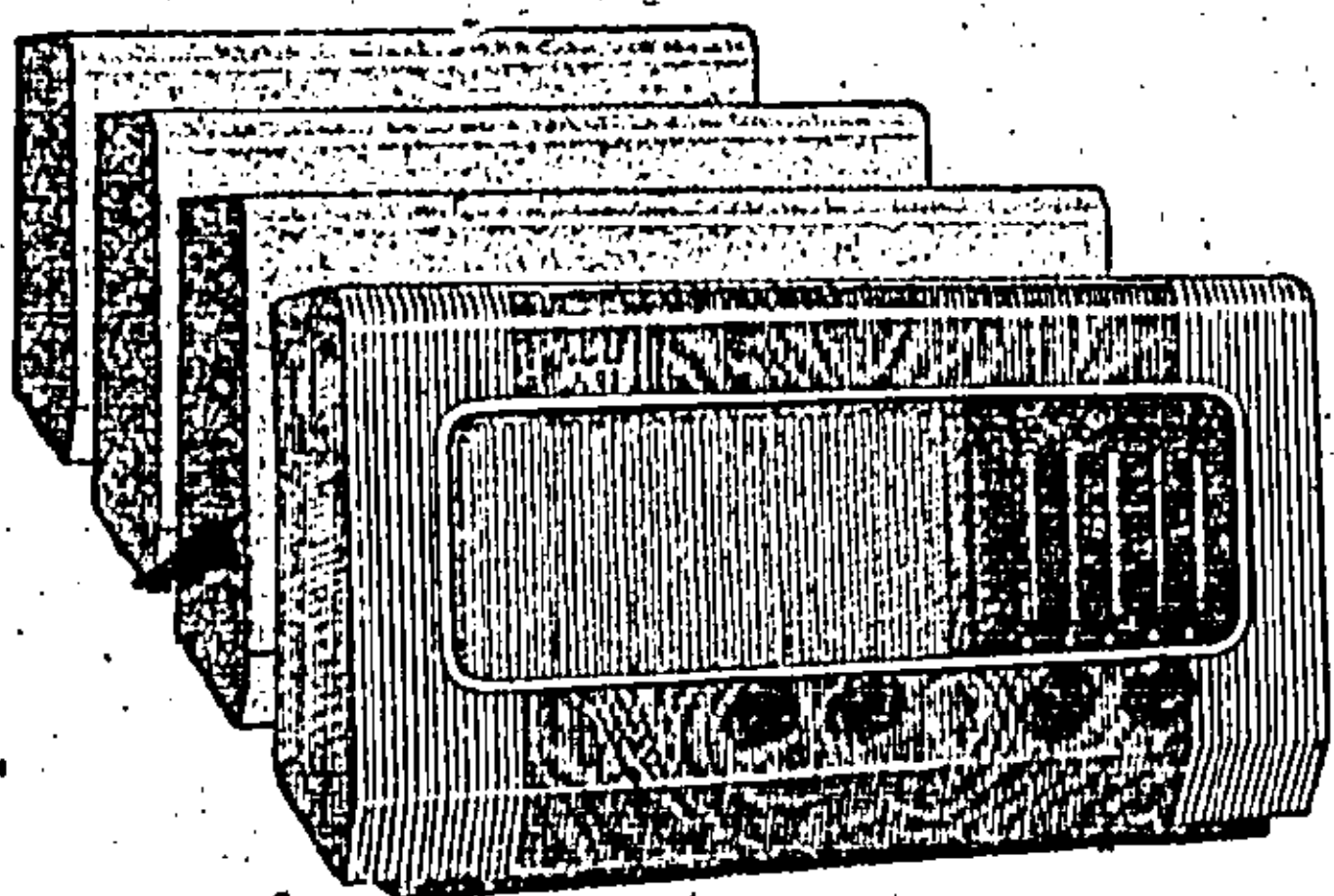
But Stalin, on his part, also made a great impression on Lenin. In a letter to Gorki, Lenin calls Stalin "an extraordinary Georgian."

In the ensuing Soviet struggles he never parted company with him—and that is, as we know, the main reason why Stalin came to power and Trotsky met his death.

Again we realise the invalidity of the Marxist theory according to which economic conditions, and not men, make history.

For the past thirty years we have been watching with our own eyes history being made by men.

(TO BE CONTINUED ON MONDAY)



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THE European YMCA Amateur Dramatic Club's 1948 Christmas pantomime, "Red Riding Hood," has had four successful nights this week, and will be repeated next Tuesday and Thursday. Here are three scenes from the colourful production. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)

CAROLS were rendered by the choir of St Stephen's Girls' College and Wah Yan College during the concert given by the Hongkong Light Orchestra at the Hongkong Hotel on Sunday evening. Mr H. V. Ardy conducted the choir. (Golden Studio)



HE the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, accompanied by officials of the Hongkong Chinese Manufacturers' Union, tours the Hongkong Products Fair, which he opened last week. Over two hundred thousand people have visited the exhibition. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



LADY Gibson (third from left), wife of the Chief Justice, opened the fête held on Murray Parade Ground last Saturday in aid of the Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



AT left and above are two pictures taken on Monday at the Christmas children's party given by HMS Tamar. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



NEW TEACHERS—Graduates of the Northcote Training College photographed with the Principal, Mr W. J. Dyer. (Francis Wu)



MR Demetrio Maria Xavier and his bride, formerly Miss Mabel Dorothy Howard, smile happily after their wedding.



PICTURE taken after the wedding of Dr F. J. Roelofs Heymans and Miss M. E. Dyckmoester, which took place at the English Methodist Church last Saturday. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)

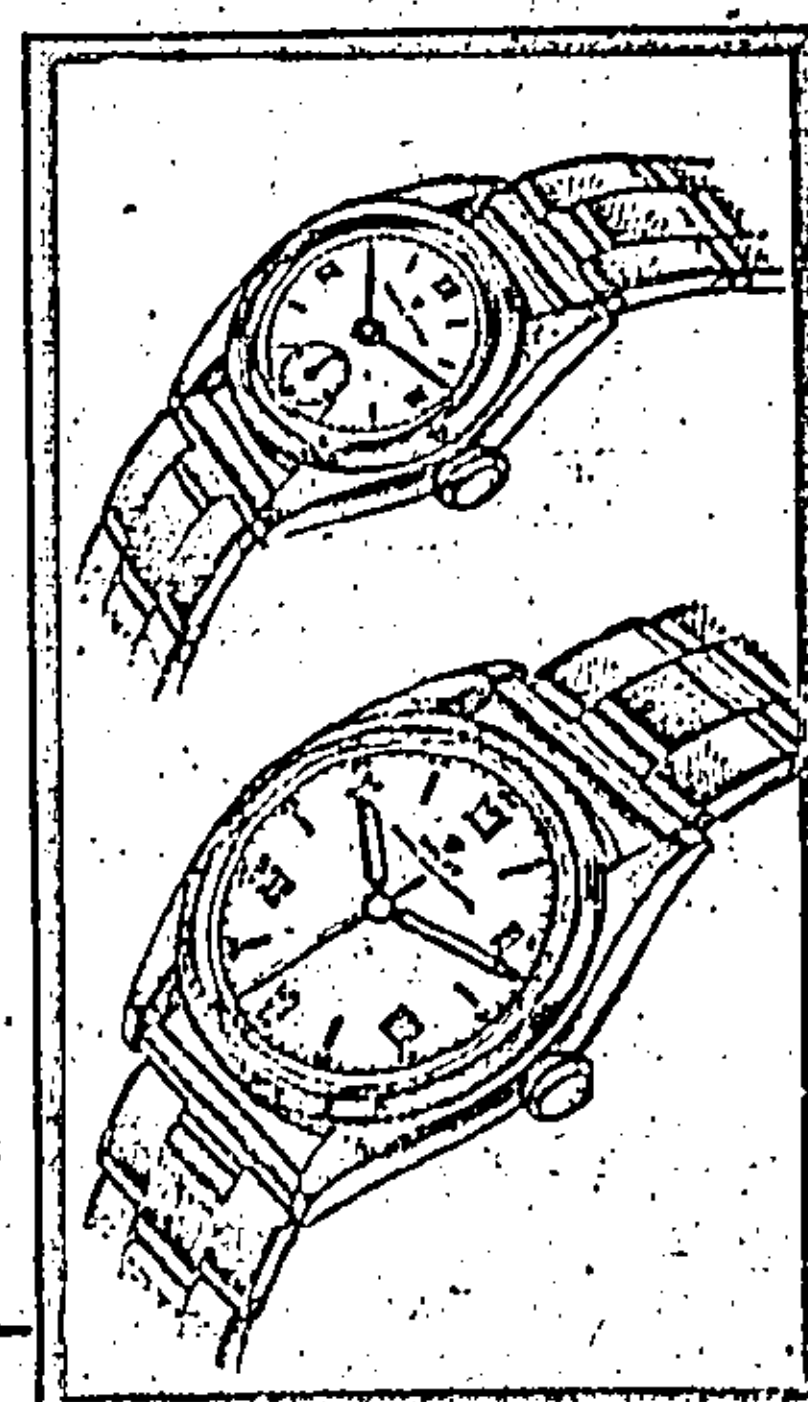


MR and Mrs Hans Blocklin photographed with their attendants after their wedding at St John's Cathedral last week. The bride was Miss Wilma Weaver. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)

*The Oyster*—the one  
permanently waterproof watch

THE OYSTER, the only permanently waterproof and dustproof watch in the world, is the practical watch for everybody. Dirt, dust, moisture, and penetration—the great enemies of a watch—are sealed out forever, for no perishable materials are used. Thus, accuracy is sealed in, the precision of the movement is doubled, the life of the watch trebled. So secure is the hermetic case, that the Oyster can be safely worn—by accident or design—in the sea or in the bath. Invented in 1926 by the great Swiss firm of Rolex, the Oyster is today a triple-tested watch.

Tested by the sportsmen and explorers who first made it famous;  
Tested in everyday life, in every continent and every climate, by more than a million men and women;  
Tested triumphantly in war by the Allied Forces who relied on it for unvarying accuracy—and often for their lives.  
By its beauty of line and superb technical ingenuity, the Oyster is the watch that still makes history!



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wrist chronometres

THE IDEAL GIFT  
FOR ALL OCCASIONS



## YOUTH



Youth is not a time of life—it is a state of mind. It is not a matter of red lips and supple knees; it is a temper of the will, a quality of the imagination, a vigor of the emotions; it is a freshness of the deep springs of life. Youth is the predominance of courage over timidity, the love of adventure over the life of ease. No one grows old by merely living a number of years; they grow old only by deserting their ideals. Years may wrinkle the skin, but to give up enthusiasm wrinkles the soul. Worry, doubt, fear and despair—these are the long, long years that bow the head and turn the youthful spirit back to dust. Whether sixteen or sixty, there is in every being's heart the love of wonder, the sweet amazement at the stars, the unfailing childlike appetite for what next, and the joy for the game of life. You are as young as your faith, as young as your self-confidence; you are as old as your despair. In that central place of your heart there is a wireless station; so long as it receives messages of beauty, hope, cheer, courage, grandeur and power, from the earth, from men and from the Infinite, so long are you young. When the wires are all down and all the central place of your heart is covered with the snow of pessimism and the ice of cynicism, then are you grown old indeed.

WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF THE SEASON

From

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## TWO NEW LINES

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BRITISH

\$5.50 pr.

Pure wool in a cheery range of plain colours: navy, red, sage, beige, canary and white.

IDOL BRAND

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Christmas

Lament

Some take their Rose's iced and tall.

Others for the Gimlet call.

As East is East and West is West

It's hard to say which is the best.

But pity the man, who to this day

Hasn't tried it either way.

Rose's is made with fresh ripe limes and sweetened with pure cane sugar.

ROSE'S  
Lime juice  
CALDBECKS

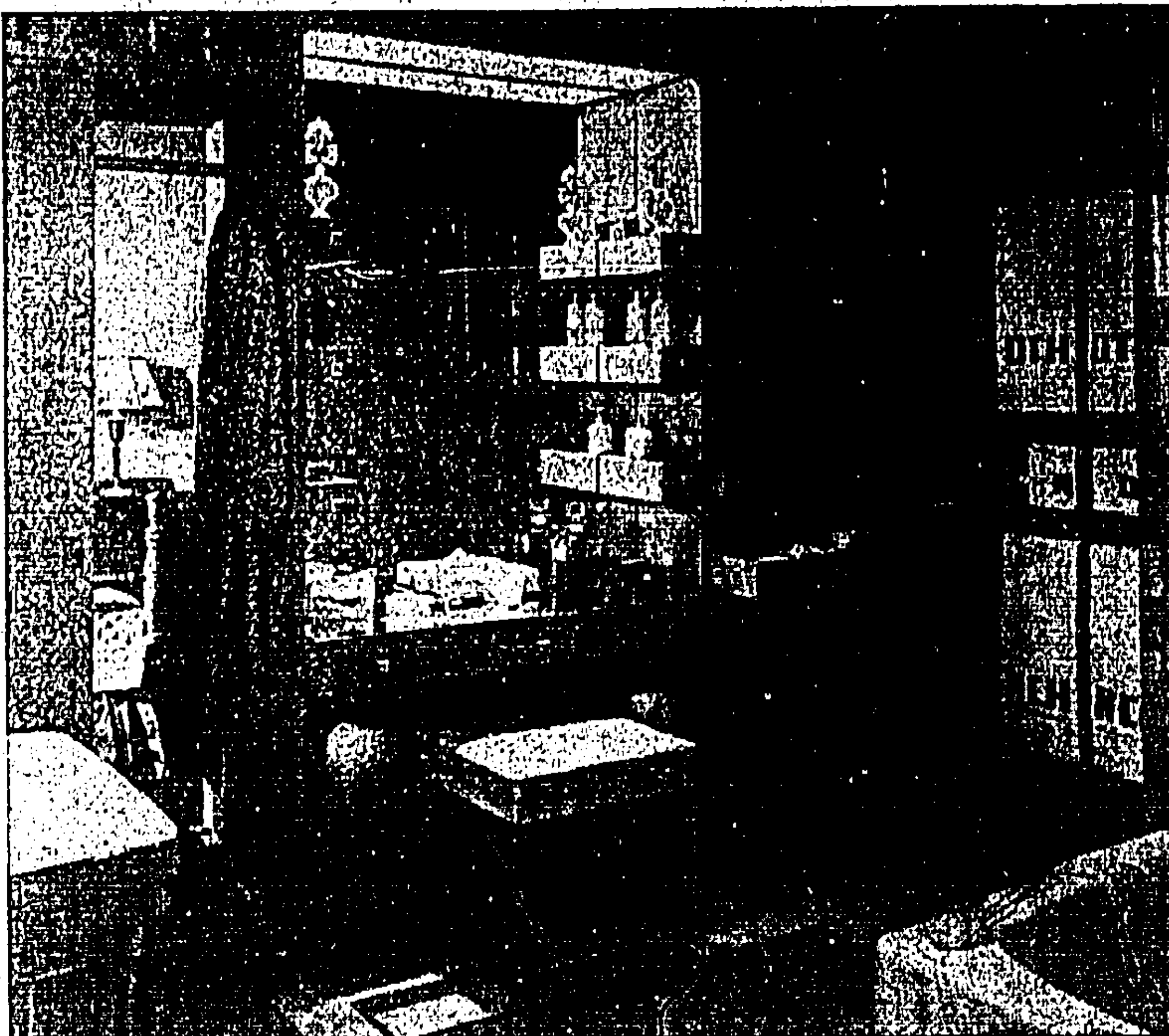
TELEPHONE 80078



## WEEK-END WOMANSENSE

## MORE SPACE - MORE CHARM

By MARION CLYDE MCCARROLL



CLEVER ADVANTAGE HAS BEEN TAKEN in this bathroom of the wall space between bathroom and bedroom, a built-in dressing table being flanked by closets and wardrobes that provide plenty of places to put things.

DECORATIVELY speaking, there's no doubt the bathroom is the most neglected room in the house.

In the average home, it's almost invariably a dreary white-tiled affair—glazed white tiles of oblong shape on the walls, unglazed white hexagonal tiles on the floor, which, with the white porcelain enamel bath tub and sink make the place look as cold and impersonal and uninteresting as a doctor's examining room. If the walls above the line where the tiling stops have been painted some pastel colour, and the shower curtain is a shade that harmonises with this, that's about as far as the average housewife usually goes in fixing up the bathroom.

Then there's the matter of cupboard and drawer space, where the usual bathroom also falls down badly. Thought and planning here again can find ways and means to provide places for bathroom linen, toiletries and the like.

The two bathrooms pictured have done away with bare whiteness and taken on charm. Besides that, they've put every bit of space to work to provide

room for everything needed in making a complete toilet, one of them even going so far as to make available wardrobe space for dressing gowns, nightgowns, underwear and the like.

The bathroom shown in the top picture prides itself on its clever use of the wall space between it and the adjoining bedroom, a dressing table having been built in, together with closets, sliding trays for undergarments and other articles, and a goodly amount of cabinet storage space.

The colour scheme of the room—blue, yellow, silver and white—takes its cue from the linoleum on the floor, which is blue with yellow insets.

The lower picture shows an Early American bathroom, with walls of knotty pine except where Dutch blue ceramic tile was used to protect splashable areas. The red informal tile design of the floor linoleum makes an effective colour contrast. Chintz in a quaint design was used for window curtains and to cover the dressing table stool, while the mirror is decorated in a manner that appropriately reflects the room's character. Reproductions of old-fashioned carriage lamps above the sink are another quaintly whimsical touch.

## SPRING PREVIEW:

## TARTAN COTTONS ARE TOPS

By Joan Erskine

LONDON. I began this series of fashion articles two months ago with a review of the Dorville winter collection. Last week I had the pleasure of seeing their spring collection. It had the same air of restrained elegance. Olive O'Neill, the Dorville designer, works for a wholesale model house. She herefore designs clothes that can be worn with comfort and grace, rather than elaborate showpieces or caricatures of fashion.

Designers for wholesale houses have an extremely difficult task. It is no easy job to design a dress or suit that must be worn by hundreds of women all over the world, and yet still retain all the individual touches that make it a model. Feminine taste varies greatly. Certainly the majority of women follow fashion—but not its every turn and twist. They may like the sloping shoulder line, and yet not want it to slope too much; hip drapery may appeal, but not if it is overdone; the longer skirt may be accepted—but not if it is an exaggerated length.

Taking all these foibles into consideration, wholesale designers study the current French and English trends, consider carefully just how far they can go, and then produce something wearable but distinctive.

## FASHION LEADERS

THE couturier works on an entirely different principle. He does not want to follow fashion. He wants to lead it. For a large sum of money you are able to buy a dress from, say, Molyneux or Hartnell, or some other famous house, in the almost certain knowledge that your dress is unique. And for this privilege you not only part with a small fortune, but must have the ability, and the courage, to wear something very definitely "out-of-the-ordinary." For the general public this is impractical.

People, too have become more name-conscious. With complete assurance suit, a Dorville dress, a Hartnell coat, in a way they certainly would not have done before the war. The introduction of utility and rationing had a great deal to do with this. People began to search for good quality clothes, and found that the best were hardest to find. So they noted the name of the maker when they came upon something worth buying, and refused to accept second-best.

The predominating feature of the Dorville collection was the use of cotton for day and informal evening dresses. And cotton, with warm climates will open their hearts to a featherweight tweed two-piece

with the appearance of grey flannel. Cool and becoming the high-waisted, slim-skirted dress was topped by a flared back hip-length jacket. Deep cuffs on the three-quarter sleeves were in bright yellow silk, white spotted, matching a craze on the dress. For coolness, too, came a suit in light olive-rayon shantung.

For hot days in town the simple elegance of a two-piece in black cotton pique was much admired. It featured the new short bolero, and I hear it is to be repeated in gum-metal and white, to the joy of overseas visitors who saw the collection.

## THEY SAT UP

BUT what really made the traditionally bored press representatives sit up and take notice were the tartan cottons. Scotland's tartans, in their new setting, are as pretty as a picture. Day, evening and dinner dresses were shown. Full-skirted and low-necked, some trimmed with Broderie Anglaise, the sombre Black Watch colouring gave the cotton the appearance of taffeta. Almost the only time that blue, black and bottle-green are ever used together is in this particular tartan, and the deep rich colour combination lent the dresses an air of formal dignity.

Worn with the tartans were matching spats, attached to a plain black court shoe and tied round the ankle, giving a fashionable billion effect. Spats that match dresses, gloves, or umbrellas are slowly catching on. But they are as yet very expensive—about £2.10. a pair.

Now that the frilled petticoat craze is dying, the same idea has been re-introduced to us in a new way. A pink and white finely checked cotton dress had a deep gathered frill attached to the inside of the skirt in a contrasting colour. When sitting or walking one catches a glimpse of what appears to be a frilled petticoat. This has the effect, too, of making the dress hang well.

A flared skirt was given more swing by the addition of an eight-inch pleated hem. Another had a double pleated frill at the bottom. Yet another fell in tiers from the waist, the top tier being gathered to give a peplum effect.

Materials used were twisted cotton, poplin, pique, silk, and the new crepe tweed. Skirts were cut generously, but with all fullness at front or back, NOT on hips. Collars were either small and neat, or very deep and folded, no half-measures. Almost all sleeves were cuffed, and all pocket flaps set vertically on hips. Cotton all-over designs were small; white spotted silk had a prominent place.



Dorville day dress in Black Watch tartan with matching tie-on spats.



IN AN EARLY AMERICAN HOUSE, the usual white-tiled bathroom is distinctly out of place, so in this case the room was given the right character, with knotty pine walls, hooked rug, quaintly decorated dressing table.

## HOW TO HAVE TRIM ANKLES AND GENERAL FOOT COMFORT

By HELEN FOLLETT

TRIM ankles are what every girl wants. The one who has them is justified in being proud of them and, always, she is a graceful, dainty stepper. Maybe it is the pretty stepping that keeps the ankles slim. Certainly the woman who plods along, who never exercises, can expect that ankles, and calves too, will thicken.

To have neat ankles, keep on your toes. Be fussy about the shoes you wear. Extremely high heels will cause these human hinges to do a side-to-side motion that is not a normal movement and which, in course of time, will cause the muscles to relax, fine contour to disappear. Wear your spikes at the gay evening party, if you must, but come down to earth during the day, wearing low heels or those of moderate height.

## One Ankle Larger

Sometimes one ankle is larger than another. That comes from the habit of letting the body weight rest on one foot when standing. More havoc is wrought: there may eventually be a slight twist of the spinal column. The girl who walks, stands and moves gracefully is not only keeping up good appearance, but she is practising a health measure.

tion to selecting the right kind of shoes, ninety of them among one hundred have trotters that are in some way crippled, deformed or afflicted with corns, callouses or ingrowing nails. We are not guessing about that. The statement has been made repeatedly by experts. Ill fitting, poorly designed shoes are the cause of the majority of these conditions.

## A Massage

If adipose tissue has collected, a thumping, rousing massage every other day will crush the fat cells. Form a bracelet with fingers and thumbs of both hands, clasp the ankle, move the hands in opposite directions, pressing hard into the flesh.

Smooth up and down with flattened fingers. Make fists and thump with your knuckles. Fat cells do not like to be disturbed. Keep at them long enough and they will go off and die.

Choose stockings carefully. Seem-free nylons are flattering to average legs. And remember, dark stockings are a blessing to the woman whose legs have gone in for a policy of expansion.

How far can you foot it? Do you think nothing of clipping off a mile or two at a brisk pace? We know the answer. Most women are not walkers, and that is a pity, because walking is an excellent exercise. It helps keep the musculature in a healthy condition, puts carnation bloom in the cheeks, cheers the mind, chugs up a healthy appetite.

Why don't you walk? Something wrong with your feet, it is likely, or your shoes are not comfortable. Because women pay so little atten-

Dr Charlotte C. West, in her book, "Ageless Youth," says: "There are no perfect feet today. So lamely have our feet deteriorated that most people accede to the belief that the human foot is monstrously ugly. There are few healthy, normally formed feet among civilised people." What an arraignment!

## Will Give Advice

When purchasing shoes, consider health and comfort first, then style. You can find shoes with soft leather tops and flexible leather soles, beautifully designed, perfectly made, that will give such ease that you don't know you have feet and they will also add chic to your sartorial trappings.

An experienced shoe clerk will be able to give you advice and suggestions. Too many women will listen to nothing along this line. They have worn a certain size, a certain width and that is what they demand, willy-nilly. Feet change with the years.

A good way to strengthen the arches and the muscles attached to the toes is to practise picking up or your shoes are not comfortable. Because women pay so little atten-



# HOME-MAKERS' CHRISTMAS

## SELECTING GIFTS FOR CHILDREN

By GARRY CLEVELAND MYERS, Ph. D.

WE give children playthings that will amuse them. Naturally, when we choose a toy we think of how much the child will like it right away. We may, therefore, give too much weight to its novelty. Unless we watch ourselves, too, we will be impressed with robot type of toys, just to be wound up. Of course, when the little child can win the toy himself and run it, he may gain value from it.

Let us keep asking ourselves: over how long a time will the child enjoy the plaything? How long will it last? A few sturdy toys are better than a ton of trash. To give a child frail toys can do him moral harm by encouraging destruction in him. Besides, broken toys lower play morale. Unless your child under five or six is extremely careful with fragile things do not give him cardboard toys. Also the toy should be safe.

### PLAY WITH OTHERS

To what degree may the toy be enjoyed with other children? While the toy from three to four needs some toys he can enjoy alone, such as a nest of cubes, blocks or simple put-together puzzles, even these can be shared. Oh, yes, the child from six to twelve needs some toys and tools he can enjoy alone, but he also needs an increasing number he can enjoy with his pals.

Will your child gain muscular development and co-ordination from the plaything? See what simple toys for the child from two to five, like a hammer toy set, cubical blocks to be fit into one another or piled into a pyramid, a few sturdy pieces of painted wood to be fit together to make a familiar picture, large centre-holed disks or squares to be put on a peg, or a very large nut to be screwed on a bolt do for finger-hand-arm-eye co-ordination. Also observe the muscular exercise from push-and-pull toys, such as a tricycle. And for the older child, roller skates, skates, wagon, bicycle, boxing gloves, punching bag, croquet set, badminton set, and various balls, and other materials for sports.

### USEFUL ACTION

How much will the toy or tool set up useful action in the child's head? Will it stimulate thinking, reasoning, invention, imagination? Normally, the child from two to six does not just manipulate blocks, toy animals and the like. He puts life into the animals, he creates with them and the blocks and other things. See his imitative and make-believe play with a toy tea set, toy broom and sweep, when with his mother or with other children.

Crayons, kindergarten scissors, paste, paint, paper, soft wood (and saw and vice) and clay are necessary materials and tools for creation by the pre-school child, even for the much older child, and all sorts of tools suited to the child's age and development, culminating in a well-equipped workshop for the boy or girl twelve or fourteen.

And don't omit good magazines and books. Some of them contain much material for making things for fun. Choose Christmas gifts for your child which will give him fun with a purpose.

Even better than best playthings for Christmas gifts are parents who give themselves in a richer appreciation of the child's creations.

### BOOKS AS GIFTS

As you know, some fine books for children have been published in recent years. Don't be carried away just by their colour. Ask yourself if they are the kind of literature you want your child to be exposed to and if they will continue to appeal to him. Will he read repeatedly from the book you choose? If too young to read, will he keep begging you to read from it over and over again?

Along with a few of the newer books, choose as gifts a goodly number of the precious books that have been enjoyed profitably by children over the years, books which have stood the test of time. Naturally, the person at the book store will urge you to buy just the newer books. They have more current publicity and offer bigger returns to the book-seller.

Many of the classics have been brought out as beautiful reprints. For the child under five or six a number of very attractive volumes of Mother Goose are on the market. "The Child's Garden of Verses," by Robert Louis Stevenson; "When We Were Very Young," and "Now I Am Six," by A. A. Milne hardly have an equal for good poetry. A great favourite of children just beginning to listen to rhymes is "Johnny Crow's Garden," by Lallo Brooks. It has just an illustrated line to the page. The baby likes to turn the page or have it turned, often.

### REPRINT EDITIONS

Among the never-ending charms for young children (to hear or read) are such classics as "Little Black Sambo," Helen Bannerman; "Golden Goose-Book," Leslie Brooks; "Alice in Wonderland," Lewis Carroll; "Children of the Wild," Theresa Deming; "Just-So Stories," Rudyard Kipling; "Tale of Peter Rabbit," Beatrix Potter.

And here are a few of the "tried and true" many of which are in beautiful reprint editions, appealing to the child from eight to twelve: "Whinnie-the-Pooh," A. A. Milne; "English Fairy Tales," Joseph Jacobs; "Household Stories," Jakob and Wilhelm Grimm; "Story of Dr. Doctissimo," Carlo Lorenzini; "Heldi," Johanna Spyri; "East of the Sun and West of the Moon," Gerdner Thorne; "Through the Looking Glass," Lewis Carroll; "Robinson Crusoe," Daniel Defoe; "Hans Brinker," Mary M. Dodge; "Wind in the Willows," Kenneth Grahame; "Jungle Book," Rudyard Kipling; "Merry Adventures of Robin Hood," Howard Pyle; "King of the Golden River," John Ruskin; "Wild Animals I Have Known," Ernest T. Seton; "Treasure Island," Robert Louis Stevenson; "Adventures of Tom Sawyer," Mark Twain.

## KEEPS THE TREE STANDING



Practical suggestion for the reason is to put baby's playpen around the Christmas tree. Diane "Cookie" Johnson here demonstrates the difficulty of grabbing ornaments or knocking over the tree.

## HOLIDAY PLANTS AND THEIR CARE

By ELEANOR ROSS

THE colourful procession of holiday plants, the lovely poinsettias, cyclamens, and azaleas, are flowing in procession out of florists' shops to lend their beauty to the holiday scene in the home.

The festive Christmas plant, received with such joy, usually doesn't last very long. In many instances, it doesn't even retain its beauty through the holiday season. Flowers fade, leaves turn yellow, and out it goes!

So often it is possible to extend the beauty season of these plants, with just a little understanding and intelligent care. The florist who grows the plants to the flowering stage gave them professional care, of course, but although it is not always possible to give the plants ideal conditions in the home, much can be done to approximate professional care.

Dry air is probably the greatest menace to the health of holiday plants. The air of the greenhouses in which the plants were grown, was kept moist by spraying not only the greenhouse walls, but even the walks. In the home a humidifier, or even pans of water on the radiators, will add the needed moisture to the air.

Fresh air is important, but don't let cold air currents blow on the plants. On cold nights, plants on the window sill should be removed or protected from the cold glass.

Most popular plant is the poinsettia, and its vivid red and beautiful green colour combination should be around to give joy to the home for longer than is usually the case. Do not over-water this plant, as the leaves will soon droop and turn yellow. Never stand the pot in a saucer of water. Place the poinsettia where it will get some sun, but not too close to a window. If the plant has chilled, the pot should be placed, up to the rim, in a pan of warm water.

No wet soil or poor drainage for the cyclamen if you want it to last a while. While watering should be moderate, it should be thorough. When the cyclamen has finished blooming, it should not be dried off like the poinsettia, but should be kept fairly moist and given plenty of light until new growth appears. Then the plant should be repotted in a soil composed of loam, sand and leaf mould in equal parts, with a little fertilizer.

### TIME-SAVING IRONING

Getting the household ready for the holidays is quite a task, especially since everyday life has to go on as usual, with all the tasks that are part of the regular schedule. So we thought that you might like to learn some good ironing tricks sent on by a reader who is an expert in the housekeeping game.

First of all, she advises that clothes should not be soaked in cold water during the winter, because this causes the fabric mesh to close and hold the dirt. For this reason, too, overnight soaking during the winter defeats its purpose. Use cool or lukewarm suds and shorten the soaking period. As for bleaches, our friend recommends that bleaches be used only after clothes have been thoroughly sudsed clean, and that two complete rinsings follow the bleaching. Like many other experienced housekeepers, she adds a smidgen of vinegar to the last rinse water, which makes delicate fabrics easier to cope with when ironing.

### HURRY-UP JOB

If you must wash and iron a blouse in a hurry, here's a good tip. Roll it in a towel to remove excess moisture after rinsing. After removing from towel, place blouse in a paper bag in a barely warm oven, just while the iron heats. You'll be astonished how this will speed up and improve the ironing job.

And, to reverse things, ever hear of the theory of putting dampened clothes in the icebox overnight before ironing? Experts swear that the things will iron more easily and look perkier as well. The theory is that the hot iron on the very cold fabric creates condensation, which gives sufficient steam without the need for a great deal of moisture in the fabric. If you decide to try this trick, place iron before the marketing, so that you'll have the requisite room in the refrigerator.

It's a breeze to wash those lovely scarfs that are so popular just now, double as hats, when they are not being used as a gift or a decorative apron on a dress. If you want the beautiful prints and colours to look like new, use speed. Cut the washing time to a minimum, keep the water lukewarm, roll in a towel for fast drying. In a pinch, scarves, like hankies, need not be ironed if spread flat to dry against a mirror, tile wall or bathtub. But be sure that the surface is absolutely clean.

## Ingenious Wrappings Add Charm

By ELIZABETH TOOMEY

WRAPPINGS don't make the gift, but they can make it look expensive and exciting.

This year you can have more fun and use more originality with your gift wrappings than ever before. It is not necessary to rely on the counter with the matched ribbons and papers and cards. You can branch out and pick novelty gadgets to top your gifts.

Instead of struggling to get a ribbon around a tiny perfume bottle, you could tuck the bottle into a small white cardboard sleigh from a notion counter. You might add a tiny Santa and miniature Christmas tree to the sleigh-load. Glimmering Christmas papers are beautiful, but for a clever change you could try wrapping a gift in an ordinary road map for the man who travels a great deal. Tie it with a bright red ribbon and attach a toy car or a key ring to the bow.

### Something for Sewing

The woman who likes to sew will be thrilled with a parcel wrapped in a length of fabric that can be used for an apron or a child's dress. Tie it with a ribbon which can be used later to trim the fabric.

Small costume jewellery, like the popular scatter pins, can be placed in a tiny box and put into Santa's sack instead of in a regular wrapping. An ordinary little muslin sack with a drawstring top will do. Substitute red ribbon for the drawstring and tie the bag to a miniature Santa.

After the parcel is finished, you can still add thoughtful "extras" which will give a very personal touch. Colourful knitting needles can be tucked in a bow for the knitter; a sachet bag added to a lingerie or handkerchief gift, or a baby's rattle on a gift of a baby's blanket.

### Colours Important

It is well to choose simple and effective colour combinations for the gifts that boast only ribbon and paper wrappings. A very wide ribbon can be used effectively on a large carton, or two or three narrow ribbons of different colours. Tie the ribbons around the parcel first and knot the ends securely. Then make the bow separately. The bow is secured to the parcel with the ends of the tying ribbon.

Once you get accustomed to securing the folded ends of the wrapping paper with tiny pieces of transparent gummed tapes, you'll find it's easy and fun to experiment with fancy tying. Try tying a large square parcel around the middle instead of over the top. Or a long narrow parcel separately at either end, with the bows in opposite corners.

For mailing, a flat bow, with no ornament, is best. Just form a loop with the ribbon, holding it firmly between the thumb and forefinger, and with the other hand make a second loop the same length on the opposite side. Make at least three loops on either side, cut the end of the ribbon and fasten the bow at the centre by wrapping a piece of matching ribbon around it. Then attach the bow to the parcel—and your gift is ready to go beneath the Christmas tree.

## Long And Short Fruit Drinks

THIRST quenchers and fruit juice cocktails are among the Christmas menu items which can be prepared well in advance.

They should be stored in ice-chest or refrigerator until required.

Pineapple and tomato juice cocktail: For eight before-dinner servings allow two cups fresh or tinned pineapple juice, two cups tomato juice, ¼ teaspoon salt, pinch cayenne pepper, ½ cup crushed ice. Place all ingredients into cocktail shaker or large screw-top jar, and shake vigorously. Keep in ice-chest or refrigerator until required.

Grapefruit and orange cocktail: For eight before-dinner servings allow 1½ cups fresh or tinned grapefruit juice, one cup orange juice, ¼ cup sugar, one cup crushed ice. Shake all ingredients in shaker or jar.

Serve garnished with sprigs of mint. If liked, 1½ to 2 cups chilled lemonade just before serving, in place of the crushed ice.

Tomato juice cocktail: For eight before-dinner servings allow four cups tomato juice, one cup water, one teaspoon finely minced shallot, one dessertspoon very finely minced celery, one tablespoon lemon juice or two tablespoons Worcestershire sauce, ½ teaspoon salt, one teaspoon sugar. Mix all ingredients and chill well before serving, strained or unstrained according to taste.

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## JEAN AITKEN LOOKS AFTER THE BUFFET

IN this article I do not propose to plan a meal for any particular type of party, but to give some recipes which might prove useful, either to the mother who is catering for children or to the hostess who is planning a buffet supper.

"Finger Foods" have become increasingly popular in recent years. These consist of sandwiches and various savoury oddments, which can be served easily and eaten without any necessity for knives and forks. Here are some suggestions for sandwich fillings.

### Sardine and Tomato

Remove bones from the sardines, and pound them well together with a small piece of butter. Add seasoning, a few drops of lemon juice, and enough sieved tomato to flavour, and make the mixture a good spreading consistency.

### Pineapple and Cress

Put some slices of tinned pineapple on a hair sieve, and allow them to drain well for several hours. Cut them into very small pieces, and spread over thin slices of buttered bread. Cover with a layer of creamy salad dressing, and sprinkle thickly with fine cress.

Put another slice of buttered bread on top, trim, and cut as desired.

### Layers are Newer

Three or four different kinds of fillings are required for layer sandwiches, such as potted meat, thinly sliced tomatoes, shredded lettuce, and mayonnaise.

The bread should be sliced very thinly and buttered. On the first slice spread a layer of the meat, and cover with another slice of buttered bread.

On top of that put a layer of tomatoes, sprinkle with seasoning, and then another slice of bread. Cover this with shredded lettuce and a little mayonnaise and seasoning.

Put another slice of bread on top, press firmly so that all the layers stick together. Trim off the crusts, and cut the sandwich down into slices. Serve. Endless combinations of fillings are possible for this type of sandwich.

### Good Foundations

Little cases of short or puff pastry can be made, filled with different kinds of savoury fillings, and served either hot or cold, according to the kind of meal for which they are required.

Line small patty tins with a good short pastry, and bake them. Cut 4 oz. of cooked chicken (or turkey, game, etc.) into small dice, and mix it with 1½ gills good white sauce. Season well, and add one tablespoon thick cream. Put the mixture into the prepared pastry cases.

Sieve four cooked potatoes, and add to them seasoning, a little grated nutmeg, half a raw egg, and ½ oz. butter. Mix thoroughly and pipe a nice rosette of this on top of the mixture in each case. Brush with a little beaten egg, and put in a hot oven for a few minutes to heat thoroughly and to brown the potato.

Many other little savoury dishes can be made on the same lines, and endless variety is possible.

Stuffed hard-boiled eggs: Little canapés made by piling a savoury mixture on small croutons of bread or little biscuits, and decorating them daintily; small bridge rolls, with savoury fillings; grilled chipolata sausages brushed with glaze, and served cold with a cocktail stick in each to allow of easy manipulation. These may help to give the housewife some ideas when planning the party menu.

Cold sweets are an essential part of the fare at most parties, so here are two recipes:—

### Cherry Creams

Use small paper soufflé cases for these, and prepare them by fixing a band of stiff white paper round each to come well above the top of the case.

Half pint cherry puree, 1 gill cream, 1 gill custard, the white of 1 egg, sugar, a little carmine, ½ oz. gelatine, ½ gill water, extra cream cherries, and angelica for decoration.

Make the custard with the yolk of 1 egg, 1 gill milk, and a little sugar to sweeten. Put it aside to cool. Make the cherry puree by putting tinned cherries and a little of the juice through a hair sieve. Mix the puree and custard together, add the half-whisked cream, sugar if necessary, and a little carmine.

Dissolve the gelatine in the water, add it to the mixture, stir till it begins to thicken a little, then fold in the stiffly whisked white of egg. Pour the mixture into the prepared cases, allowing it to come a little way above the top of each.

When set remove the paper bands, pipe a rosette of whipped cream on top of each, and decorate with a cherry and little leaves of angelica.

### Jellied Pineapple Trifle

Some tinned pineapple, sponge cake, lemon jelly, a little cherry cream.

Use a tall mould, and put into it alternate layers of sliced sponge cake soaked with some of the pineapple juice and little sherry and chopped pineapple.

Have ready some warm lemon jelly, and fill up the mould with this. Put aside to set. Turn it out when cold, and decorate with whipped cream.



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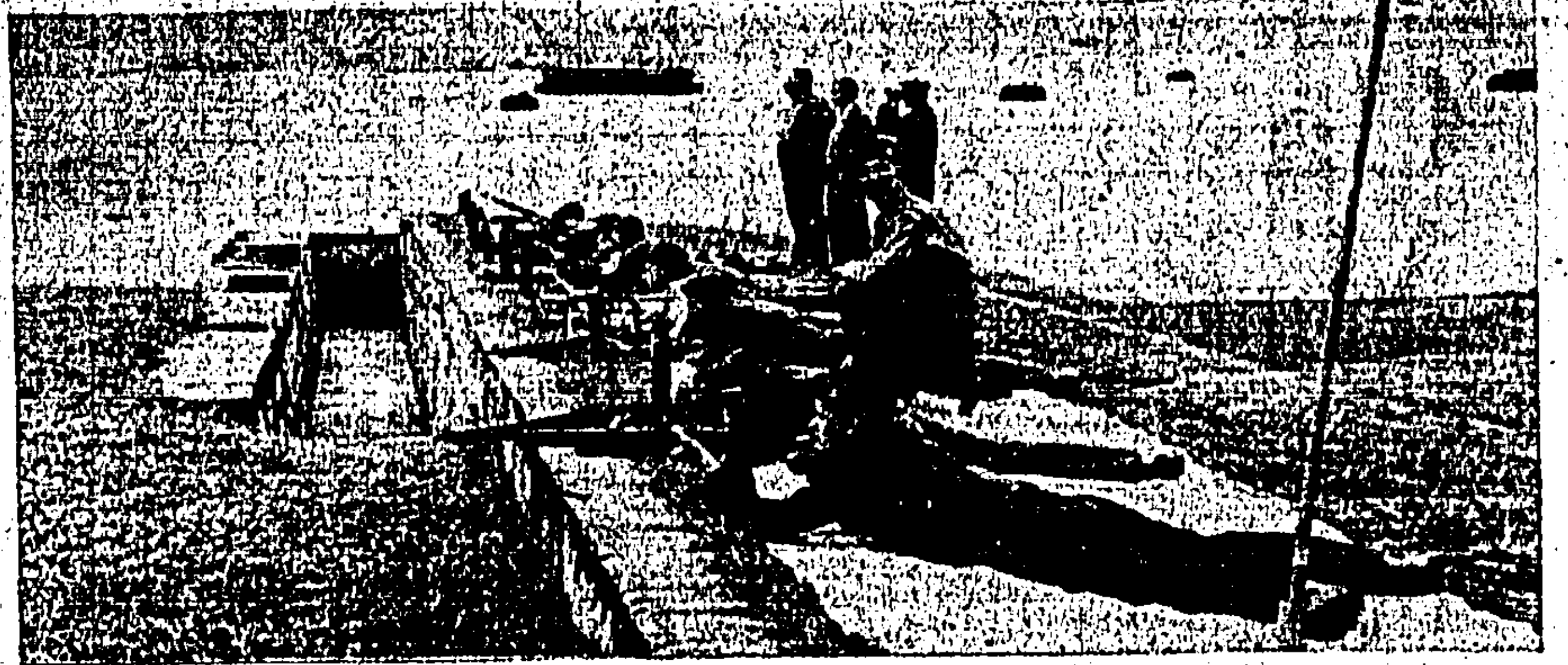
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SCENE at Stonecutters on Saturday morning during the shoot in the National Rifle Association Overseas Rifle and Revolver Postal matches. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)

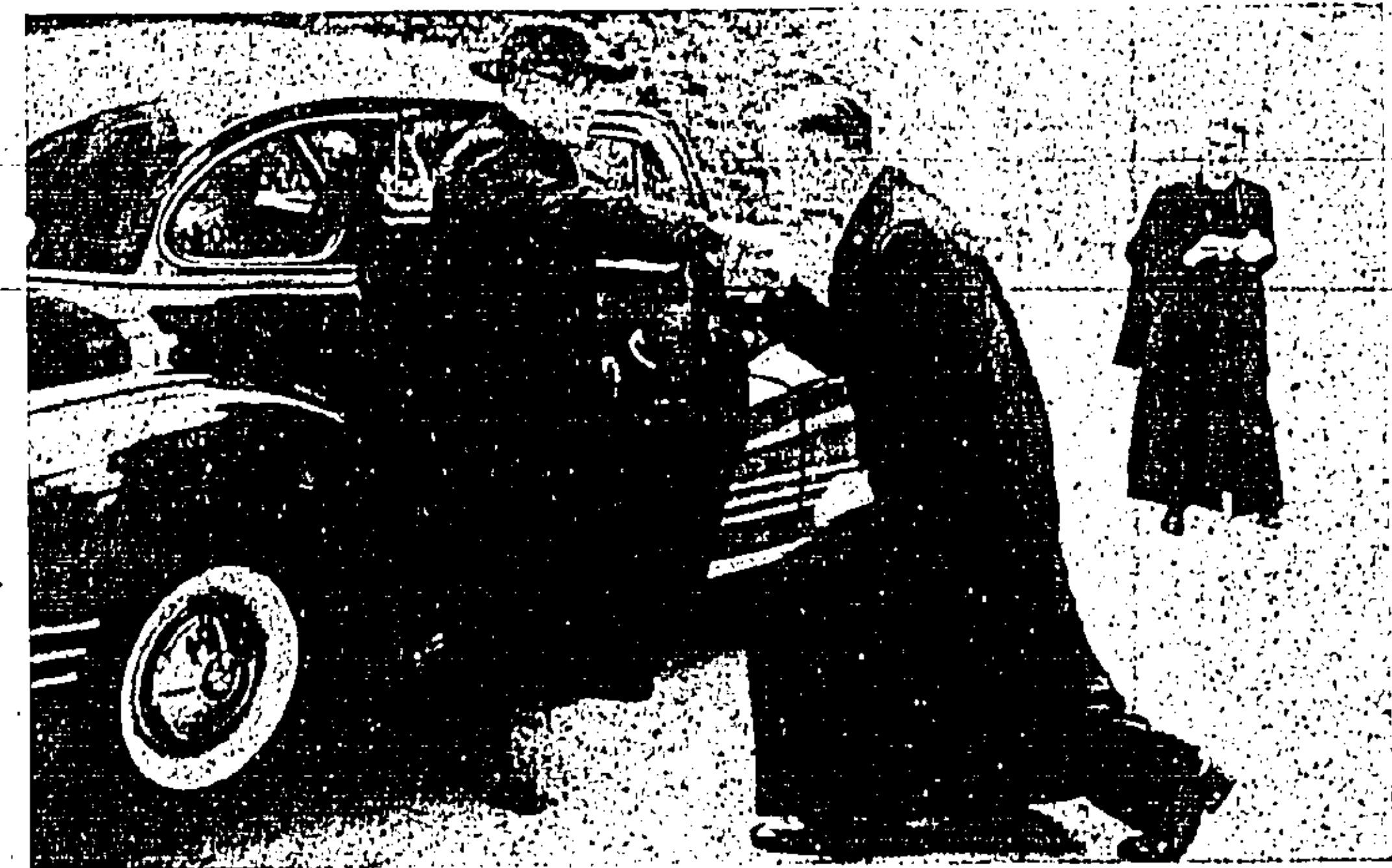


FESTIVE decorations added colourful atmosphere to the Kowloon Cricket Club last Saturday when another successful dance was organised by the Ladies' Section of the Club. Above left: a scene during the evening. Two of the many parties are shown here. Above: Mr A. V. White, Mr and Mrs T. O. Edwards and friends. Left: Mr and Mrs S. C. Trueman and friends. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



LEFT: Major Peter Clague, of the Army Legal Services, and Miss Heather Chalmers photographed after their wedding at St John's Cathedral on Tuesday. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)

A HAPPY group picture taken at St Andrew's Church on Sunday when an end-of-year party was given for children of the Sunday School. (Golden Studio)



THE Royal Marines Association held a Christmas ball at the Union Jack Club last Saturday. Among those who attended were (from left) Capt. D. H. Jones, Commodore C. L. Robertson and Rear Admiral A. C. G. Madden. (Ming Yuen)



CATHAY Pacific Airways were hosts at a cocktail party at the Hongkong Hotel last Saturday. Among those who attended were, in the top picture, Mr J. Bashforth, of the Civil Aviation Department, and friends, and, in lower photo, Mr and Mrs Dick Labrum and friends. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)

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HIS Eminence Thomas Cardinal Tien paid a visit to Wah Yan College last week and spoke to the students. Photo at left above shows the Cardinal being greeted on arrival. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)

A TINY pupil of the Maryknoll Convent School receives a prize from His Excellency the Governor at the annual prize day. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)



AIRMEN of the RAF Station at Kai Tak started their festivities last Saturday by holding their annual Christmas dance, which proved a jolly and successful event. The camera here catches a happy group during the evening. (Telegraph Staff Photographer)

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# Case of the M.P. who stole a German's fortune

Of all the sensational cases in which Sir Patrick Hastings, K.C., appeared in the courts, none aroused more intense feeling than that of Mr. Gruban, a German, who sued Mr. Handel Booth, a member of Parliament, at the height of the anti-German feeling during the 1914-18 war.

...which proved to be the turning point in the career of

Sir Patrick Hastings K.C.

THE case of Gruban v. Booth was the turning point in my professional career.

Mr Gruban was a German. He had served in the German Army, and although he had lived in England for many years, his home of origin was apparent in his speech.

He had built up a very considerable engineering business. Prosperity seemed to be smiling upon him until the first World War. Then everything was changed.

His birth, his speech, even his activities all made him suspect. He found himself in momentary terror of the loss of all his property, even of his liberty, and he sought in desperation for some influential friend upon whose help he might be able to rely.

Unfortunately he turned to a certain Mr Handel Booth.

## Handel Booth's ultimatum

Handel Booth was a member of Parliament. He appeared most anxious to be helpful, he propounded many schemes. Finally he propounded what was practically an ultimatum.

Mr Gruban, he said, was in the direst peril, and there was only one means by which that danger could be averted. It was Handel Booth, must take his place.

If Gruban would consent to hand over all his interest in his business to Handel Booth, who would of course hold it merely as a nominee, the authorities would be satisfied, and Gruban would be safe; if not, his property would be forfeit and he himself would be incarcerated.

In desperation and in complete reliance upon his friend, Gruban consented. Handel Booth became possessed of everything. Within a week Gruban was arrested and interned.

At that time an internecine was entitled to appeal to a statutory tribunal against the order for his detention. That tribunal was controlled by two of our greatest lawyers, Lord Sankey and Lord Blanesburgh.

They inquired deeply into the whole transaction. Unfortunately all the evidence before them was of necessity given under the pledge of secrecy; even Gruban received no indication as to the facts and documents which the tribunal heard or saw, but they must have been conclusive.

The committee recommended his immediate release, and they went even further. They indicated that Mr Gruban would be well advised to place the whole facts before an independent solicitor who might advise him as to his future actions.

## Fighters for justice

Gruban was practically destitute, but fortunately for him there are some solicitors who place justice far beyond mere cash receipts.

Mr Synnot was one of those. It was to him that Gruban owed his subsequent vindication. I shall always be proud to think that Mr Synnot came to me, and between us we worked for many months upon the action that was started.

From the outset we were satisfied that Gruban's internment was at least to some extent the work of Handel Booth; the few days which elapsed between the complete transfer of Gruban's property and his internment were too significant to be a mere coincidence.

Handel Booth must have said or written something which assisted in that strange result. But how to prove it?

The tribunal was pledged to secrecy; the authorities would give us no assistance. Handel Booth had sworn upon his oath that he had written nothing.

Our one hope lay in extracting the truth, either by cross-examination or else by some miracle which might happen at the trial, and upon that miracle we relied.

## Atmosphere was against us

The trial opened under singularly inauspicious circumstances. It was almost at the precise moment of the sinking of the Lusitania.

The feeling against Germany had risen to unprecedented height. Poor little Gruban must have felt more than unhappy as he entered court.

I opened the case by a mere recitation of the facts. I told the jury that our case depended in the main upon one incident.

Had Handel Booth betrayed his trust? Had he obtained the financial advantage that he sought by pretending to guarantee Gruban's safety, and then written to the authorities and disparaging Gruban in order that he should keep the fortune for himself? But I could not prove it. I told them that the claim of privilege and

secrecy might still defeat us, but we should see.

The Prime Minister would know if such a letter had been written; so would the Home Secretary. We had subpoenaed both of them.

They or their representative must attend the court, and state before the jury whether such a letter existed and if so did they object on any ground to its production.

I called upon them both to answer their subpoena, and flatly declined to say another word until they attended.

## Defence begins to crack

The effect was electrical. The Attorney-General, who represents the Government, was not in court. He had not expected his attendance would be required so soon; people began to shuffle, the jury began to whisper.



Handel Booth

The judge suggested that I should continue while we waited. I refused. Then the defence commenced to crack. Rigby Swift, that most powerful advocate, was in whispered consultation with his juniors. He felt the atmosphere swinging against him, and he decided upon the valiant course. He rose in his place and said that he had a copy of letter which might be what I wanted.

He handed me the copy. Our belief was justified. If it was not all that I had wanted, it was enough.

Mr Handel Booth had indeed proved himself an unfaithful friend. From that moment the case was over. Mr Gruban obtained the verdict that Mr Booth had been fraudulent, with damages to the extent of £5,000.

## The duel with Edward Duke

To consider one case as the turning point in a whole career is perhaps an exaggeration. Fortunately I had another which followed almost immediately, although of a very different kind.

A jeweller alleged that he had lost a vast quantity of jewellery while travelling in Brussels. He was insured at Lloyd's, and made a claim against the underwriters, which they resisted upon the ground of fraud.

I was passionately anxious to fight the case, and the underwriters were persuaded to agree.

The case depended almost entirely upon a cross-examination of the plaintiff, and he came into court represented by all the weight of the Bar, with Edward Duke as his leading silk.

It was the first time I had ever been opposed to Duke, and his sledge-hammer attack upon the underwriters for daring to oppose the plaintiff's claim must have depressed them almost as much as it did me.

But fortunately he put his case too high. Once he had attacked the underwriters it gave me my opportunity.

I cross-examined the plaintiff for the best part of a day. An Mr Duke had attacked my clients I was more than justified in attacking him. At any rate, it was successful. The jury returned a verdict for the underwriters, and the plaintiff lost his case.

The action had an amusing sequel. It was taken to the Court of Appeal, one of the chief grounds of appeal being that counsel for the defendant had unduly influenced the jury.

Lord Justice Scrutton was a member of the court. Those of us who knew him so well remember him as a man possessed of a keen and somewhat cynical sense of humour.

On reading this particular ground of appeal the judge asked gently who was the overbearing counsel who had appeared to represent the underwriters. I was indicated as the offender.

"But surely the plaintiff was represented by adequate counsel of his own?"

Four distinguished members of the Bar headed by Mr Duke rose in their seats.

"Dear, dear!" said Lord Justice Scrutton.

advocate, if only by reason of the fact that Wootton in effect alleged that Sievier's acquittal on the criminal charge was totally unjustified.

My delight at being retained by Wootton was, however, marred by the fact that I had still another leader; it was again to be Edward Carson.

## Then the gods smiled on me

The trial took place before Lord Reading and a special jury, and Sievier was no doubt delighted to learn that his judge should be the very man who had defended him upon the earlier indictment.

Wootton and his witnesses were first examined and when the court rose on the second day all that remained was the cross-examination of Robert Sievier. And then the gods smiled upon me. Carson told me that he had been summoned urgently to Ulster, and in consequence Sievier would be left to me.

To say I was overjoyed would be an understatement, but my delight was not unmingled with some degree of natural anxiety. Sievier was, in racing parlance, a strong favourite. Even the precincts of the courts echoed with shouts of "Good old Bob!"

But "Good old Bob" had lived a somewhat hectic life, and every detail of that life I knew.

The cross-examination was one of the longest I had ever undertaken, but then Mr Sievier's life was long and varied.

## He had so much to explain

At the beginning my ears still rang with the cries for "Dear old Bob," but as the hours went by the enthusiasm seemed to disappear.

He had so much to explain that had passed quite easily upon a racecourse, but did not sound so well in the calmer atmosphere of court.

He began to flounder; he sought to find excuses that did not quite ring true, and then at last we came to the episode of the Winning Post and his one-time friend, Jack Joel.

In vain he appealed to the sympathetic hearing of the judge; still more in vain he reiterated that fact of his acquittal.

He had so much to explain—that this court would be guided solely by the evidence which was brought before it to the exclusion of all outside considerations.

When Sievier left the box the case was over. Gone were his sycophantic followers. Those that remained stayed only so that they might cheer his enemy. Sievier was finished.

## I become the Attorney-General

There was one further pinnacle to be attained, and that I reached within a comparatively short time. Twenty years from the date of my call to the Bar, his Majesty appointed me his Attorney-General, and during my period of office I became the Leader of the Bar.

After that I could go no higher. On the night of my appointment I walked home from the Law Courts ruminating on the changes which 20 years had brought in their train.

Officials saluted as I left the building, and policemen held back the traffic for me as I crossed the Strand. And yet I did not feel particularly different. I wondered if I was any happier than I had been 20 years before.

## Where I used to cadge a lift

As I walked away I found myself involuntarily following the same road which I had known so well on the interminable pilgrimage to Putney. I began to find familiar landmarks.

There was the flower-girl at the corner of Norfolk-street; she had been a very pretty girl; she was there still, fatter and a trifle blowy, but her flowers were just the same.

I walked through Trafalgar-square; I could almost remember the number of flagstones along Cockspur-street.

Piccadilly had not changed, although the women who nightly walked the streets had altered.

At Knightsbridge was the place where I used to cadge a lift from the vegetable wagon returning in the early hours from Covent Garden.

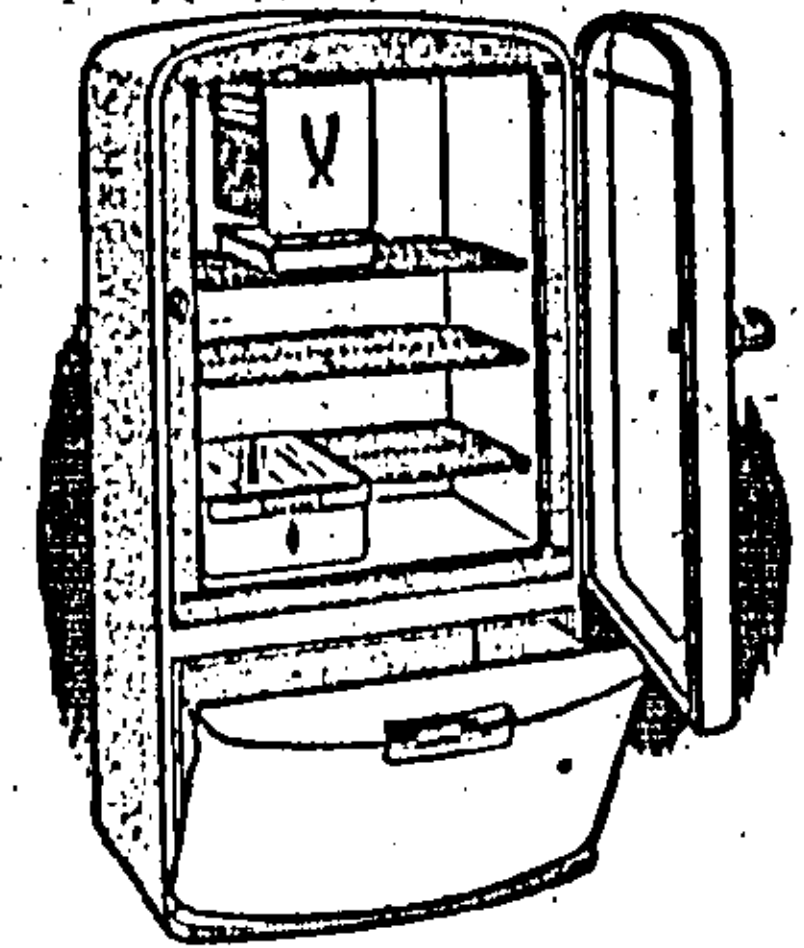
Still further on the public-house where there were usually a drunken couple brawling, and then an archway in South Kensington where I used to shelter from the rain.

It was raining as I walked that night as the newly appointed Attorney-General, and then I remembered that I had walked too far. I was not obliged to walk to Putney, so I called a taxi and drove back to my home in Curzon-street.

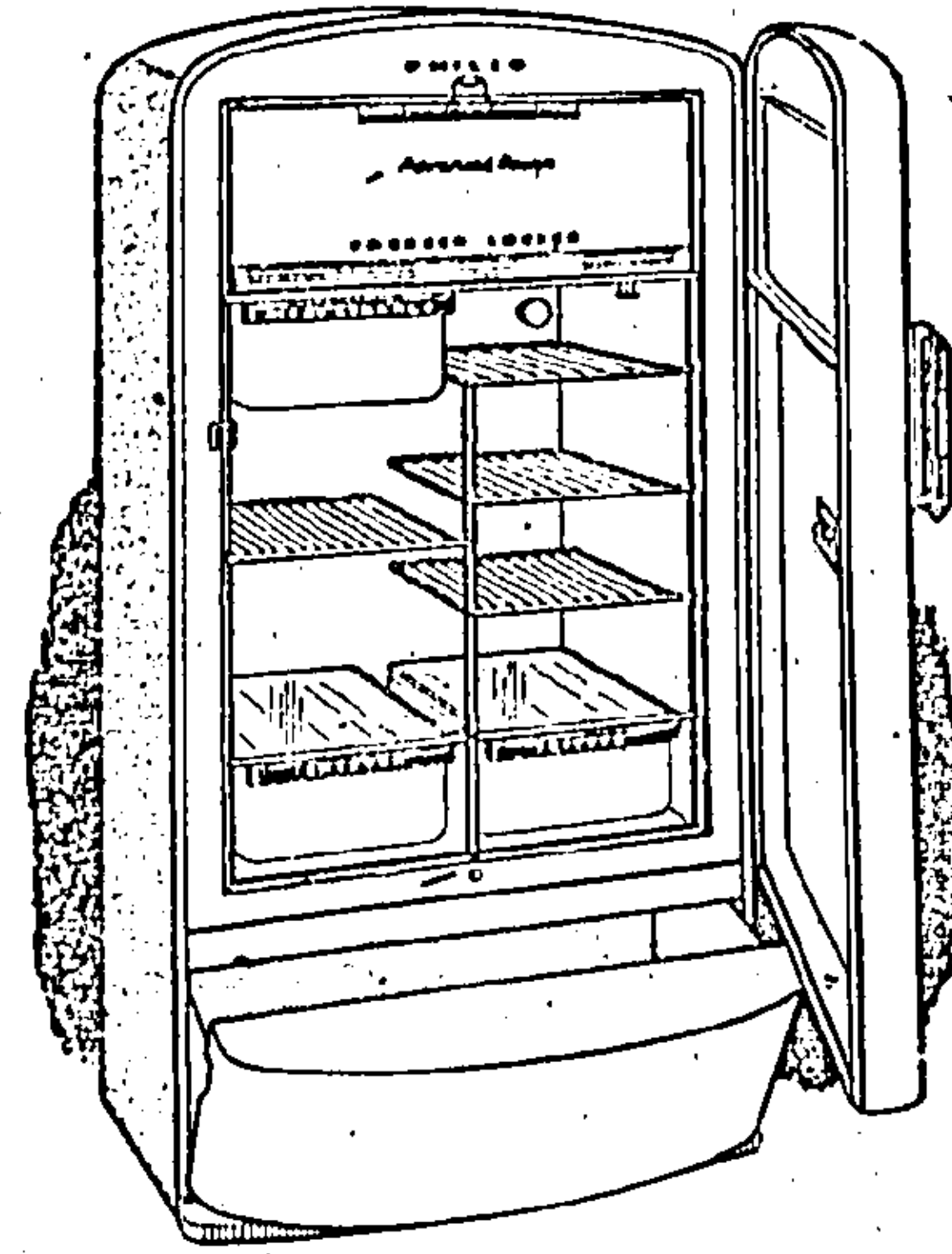
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## 1949 RELEASES

### BRITISH

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APPOINTMENT WITH CRIME  
MY BROTHER JONATHAN  
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TOWER OF TERROR  
MURDER IN REVERSE  
PIMPERNEL SMITH  
GREEN FINGERS  
BOND STREET  
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DUAL ALIBI

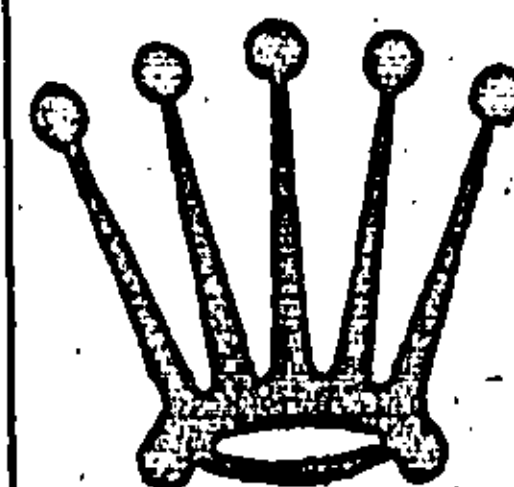
### AMERICAN

QUEEN OF THE AMAZONS  
BUFFALO BILL RIDES AGAIN  
FLIGHT TO NOWHERE  
BUCKSKIN FRONTIER  
AMERICAN EMPIRE  
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## HOLIDAY SOCCER

## CHRISTMAS BRINGS THE INTERNATIONAL TOURNEY

A Merry Christmas to all who keep the local soccer world moving, and to all followers of soccer in Hongkong!

Christmas brings the annual matches in the International Charity Cup Competition. This year teams representing four nationalities take part—China, England, Portugal and Scotland.

For players who have been taking part in Christmas conviviality, these Christmas minutes duration with the possibility of extra time thrown in are severe tests indeed.

For tomorrow's match at Caroline Hill, the Chinese have chosen an exceedingly formidable side to do duty against the Scots. It is almost the strongest eleven possible, although there must be serious doubts whether Ho Ying-fun will be fit. He fell very heavily in last Sunday's match at Caroline Hill.

Scotland's eleven is probably stronger in defence than in attack. Despite the fact that Craighead plays his best game as pivot, the line-up of Leck, Henderson, Craighead, etc., commands respect.

The Scottish attack is largely experimental. Soutar, the RAF captain, as outside-left, is a selection which will interest a lot of people. In recent matches he has given the impression of being right on top of form. Most of his recent football, however, has been either as half-back or full-back. He certainly has a good left foot.

## SUNDAY'S GAME

For the England v. Portugal game on Sunday all seems set for one of those happy occasions which one associates with Christmas.

## IN THE RING

By ARCHIE QUICK

## Olympic Boxer Sets Up A Record

At least one new record has been set up in the parlous confusion which is British boxing. Never before has a man represented Great Britain in the Olympic Games and within the same year won £500 in prize money.

But that is what Jack Gardner, 21-year-old chicken farmer of Market Harborough, has accomplished. Four short months ago he was Sergt. Gardner, of the First Battalion, The Grenadier Guards, on a little more than 10 shillings per day, Army, Imperial Services and National Amateur Champion.

Now he has bright hopes of one day succeeding to the crown now held by Bruce Woodcock. Weighing over 14 stones, beautifully proportioned, 6 feet 2 inches tall, young, good-looking, and intelligent, he towered above all other entrants in Jack Solomon's £1,000 Heavyweight Novices' Competition and took first prize by means of four first-round knockouts, all clean as a whistle.

He was small fry on this bill. One day he will be topping it. It is in the good hands of John Simpson, manager of Vince Hawkins, although there is now some dispute about the legality of the arrangement at the moment.

It is argued that he came to professional terms with Simpson before the Olympic Games.

The only doubt about his future comes from recalling the semi-finals of the Olympics and how Gardner crumpled up when he received his first hard punch from an Uruguayan. It was a bitter disappointment to us all. Let us say it was lack of experience.

## Army Hockey Boom

While Army Soccer is experiencing a boom season with a record entry for the Challenge Cup and Boys' Cup, the Army Hockey Cup has likewise attracted a record entry of 137 units, compared with last season's record of 125, so Hon Sec. Lieut-Colonel G. S. Grimston tells me.

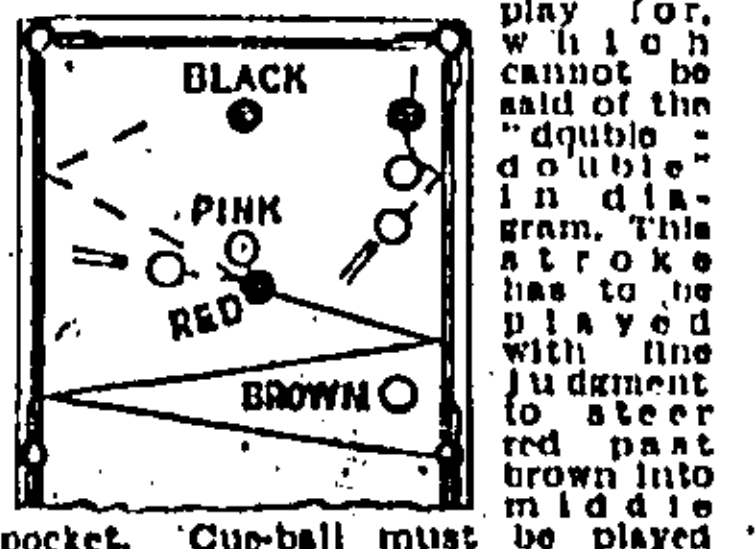
The Army team itself, has the services of three of England's Olympic team, Major Lindsay, Capt. Reynolds and Warrant Officer Greene, while four others of last year's successful team are still available.

It has 14 fixtures to play, including the Inter-Services Tournament. Unfortunately, medical advice has forbidden Col. Grimston, former Sussex County cricketer, to play any more hockey.

He is anxious to try out the Indian type of stick and although he prefers the English type, he is determined to give the Indian a thorough trial in the Army. Many units have come home with this equipment and like it.

## Arthur Peall says:

I HAVE heard the "double-double" described as more of a ruse than anything else. That is wrong. A ruse is something you do not play for.



pool. Cue-ball must be played with screw at the right strength to line up on black. When it does succeed there is no remembrance of a ruse in this shot. The cue-ball cannot be shown on right of diagram as it played merely to score the cannon. But to get the cannon and leave the cue ball as indicated demands a skillful shot.

## By "SEE TEE"

The chances of an English victory look favourable, although it may be wondered why the great-hearted Navy pivot, Flintham, has not been given a place. He is first reserve.

The English attack carries some potential marksmen. The introduction of Ramskill of the Army to the left-wing berth will be watched with interest. He will be well supported and may make a name for himself.

With the prospect of representative matches in the near future, it is of considerable importance that the league programme should not fall behind.

On Monday there are three first division matches, three second division matches and one Junior Shield knock-out competition re-play.

One of the most attractive is the Army v. Navy game at Causeway Bay. The Navy may be able to field a very strong eleven. These inter-service soccer games usually provide football of the forthright type which so many of us long to see.

Prior to the Senior League game on Monday, the Navy ground is

also the venue of the Junior Shield re-play. In their previous meeting, the Navy's "B" team and Club's second string played out a dour struggle without either side able to claim much advantage. At the end of extra time the score was two goals all.

## LIVELY PLAY

Monday's Club v. Eastern First Division game promises some lively play. Eastern met with an unexpected defeat in their match with Kwong Wah last Sunday, while the Club showed unusual tenacity in their game with the Army.

Although the Police improved in recent matches, they were no match for KMB last Saturday. South China "A", now with ten successive league victories to their credit, should have little difficulty in continuing their winning run at Caroline Hill on Monday.

South China may be without Lai Shui-wing and Ho Ying-fun, both injured in recent games. How much the steady influence of Lai was from the South China attack last Sunday is a matter for considerable speculation.

Special Christmas congratulations to Kwong Wah on their first victory of the season; it came in their tenth league match. It was a pleasure to see the pleasure it gave to Kwong Wah players last Sunday as they trooped off the field; their faces were wreathed in smiles. Throughout nine league matches and one senior shield tie the sweets of victory have been denied Kwong Wah.

It is to their lasting credit that no shadow of foul play or unsporting behaviour had clouded Kwong Wah's record. Victory, though long delayed, tastes the sweeter when fairly won.

## THE "BIG FOUR"



Pictured together above are the "Big Four" of ladies' tennis in Hongkong, now that the Colony Open Singles Champion, Miss Dawn Kent, has left for Australia. With Miss Kent they hold all the Colony Open and Ladies' Recreation Club trophies.

They are, from left to right:

Mrs A. Shewan, winner with Miss Kent of the Colony Open Doubles title; and runner-up in the LRC Doubles with Mrs Stroobach;

Mrs E. Linton, runner-up in the Colony Open Doubles and LRC Singles and Doubles champion;

Mrs S. Standaloff, runner-up for the Colony Open Doubles title with Mrs Linton and winner, with the same partner, of the LRC Doubles title;

Mrs Stroobach, runner-up for both the Colony Open Singles and the LRC Singles Championship and runner-up for the LRC Doubles title with Mrs Shewan.

The picture was taken at the Ladies' Recreation Club last Saturday after the final of the Club Doubles Championship. Photo by Golden Studio.

## Holiday Sport

## CHRISTMAS DAY

Crickets—Indian Recreation Club's Over 35 v. Under 35. Match starts at 11 a.m.

Football—International Charity Cup Competition: China v. Scotland, at Caroline Hill, 3.30 p.m.

## BOXING DAY

Football—International Charity Cup Competition: England v. Portugal, at Happy Valley, 3.30 p.m.

By "SPECTATOR"

## SOFTBALL CHATTER

## The Stage Is All Set For The Holiday Loop

There is an abundance of attractive holiday softball fare. Harold Winglee's Great Britain meet Fred Diesta's Philippines tomorrow to start off this year's International Series. After this game, which is down for 2 p.m., China, under Dick Chung, take on India, the defending champions, all of whose former stars now play under the Pakistan banner.

Both tilts are expected to be "walk-overs." Britain and China should emerge easy victors.

The feminine International begins on Monday. China is to meet Great Britain and Portugal clash with the Philippines, the first game starting at 2 p.m.

A close struggle is anticipated between the British and Chinese girls, while the Portuguese should have an easy passage into the next round of this knock-out system competition.

The strength of Great Britain—this nation won the first post-war championship—lies in the all-rounder Leonard brothers, Dave and Stan. And Jack Brown, who hits pretty well too, is their standard pitcher. Then there is the youthful, coming player, S'd Holland. They combine, with the brashness of Winglee at the helm, in co-operation with Madcap Manager Buster Holland to head a formidable battle squad.

The Filipinos, without much material in trim, look conspicuously weaker by comparison. However, these sport-loving Philippines boys will give a good account of themselves before going down.

With the "change of heart" of their former starry representatives in favour of Pakistan, title-holding India is not expected to be able to turn out a formidable team.

On the other hand, reliable defensive but not too aggressive in attack China is optimistic in championship hopes—and not without reason.

They should survive the first round without extended effort. But thereafter, I think they just can't make it against the strong opposition there is in this competition.

However, popular Herbie Quon is all set to go again. If he can remember that fast ball of his, with which he excelled in the "fast" company of the few whose performances are not seen, these days, Herbie's pitching could be highly dangerous and helpful to China.

The question is, will Herbie be able to do it. It'll be eye-opening if he could. Manager Dick Chung also can rely on seasoned warriors like Young Kar-sing, Bill Woo, Luck Bum and Choi Ping-fun. The rest of the side is young blood with promise.

Charles Figueiredo gets the enviable honour of running both the men's and women's teams for Portugal. The girls are a well-chosen bunch and, as already known, are powerful in all departments.

A welcome return to the game is seen in the selection of vivacious Celeste Gutierrez and sparkplug Cynthia Motin, who, until now, gave the game the air. They lend more power to the already powerful Portuguese squad.

China is considered the dark-horse contingent and an upset in their loop of the Series is not out of the question. I consider they stand a good sporting chance.

As usual, the Big Chief is Alice Mar, who has the very able assist-

tance of hard-hitting Ulian Khoo at her side.

Other to form up the China squad comprise some rising girls—Rosita Nye, Margie Woo, Monica and Allene Chintan and Julie Leung, to name a few. Britain are an unknown quantity, so is the Philippines form. The latter can boast of a big star in Wildcat catcher-Effie Bahida. A big name in the British team is southpaw pitcher Dolly Brown, Wildcat.

In the men's competition, Pakistan and Portugal drew byes. The International draw was "fixed," it was mooted by not a few, so that the more popular, it was believed, China or Portugal must enter the final for its drawing value.

Pakistan is to meet the winner of the Philippines Britain game. Portugal engage the victor of the China-India encounter.

It is hoped that the General Committee will issue a statement to the effect that the draw was not "fixed," and that it was actually held the way it should be conducted.

## Newsy Bits

Starry baseballer Gus Oliver landed himself in a predicament. He has been suspended by the Management from play for two weeks—all because he wanted to help the Americans out when they were short against the Khalsas who were bent on beating the Canadians.

The suspension resulted from a protest from the vanquished, who succeeded in turning defeat to victory off the field. They were understood to have agreed to Oliver's playing in the first place.

This is but one incident of off-the-field manoeuvring which does not help the game.

Anyway, there is loose control and questionable management somewhere. And Gus Oliver undeservingly has been made the scapegoat. There should be a shake-up.

Recrelo has definitely withdrawn from Senior League competition. How the well-fought victory and sweet revenge from the Wildcats. It was the best game in this loop so far this season. Terry allowed but two hits, then fanned six. She batted well, too, scoring the first Whoo run in the 3-1 victory, after hitting safely and stealing second.

## Week-End Stars

Terry Noronha, Whooos—This Big Chief returned—to true from together with her champion girls, who won the well-fought victory and sweet revenge from the Wildcats. It was the best game in this loop so far this season. Terry allowed but two hits, then fanned six. She batted well, too, scoring the first Whoo run in the 3-1 victory, after hitting safely and stealing second.

Patsy Ribeiro, Whooos—What again! Three hits in four trips were smashed by the power-packed, bullet-pegging Patsy, the peppery catcher. A lion's share belongs to her in Hal Winglee's team's triumph, which, I am sure, mended his heart, "broken" after defeat by the Canadians a couple of weeks ago. It was a jubilant Harold that day.

Terry Baptista, Whooos—Her timely three-bagger scored the third run to put the game on ice. This fleet outfielder—they call her "Choo Choo" with the radio voice—fielded lawlessly, which adds up to a starry tale.

Alice Mar, Canadians—Versatile Alice Mar demands mention once again. She hit twice safely. She struck out 10—the Pirates were the victims. She let only three hits. Another top performance in another Canadian victory.

Allene Chintan, Canadians—Lively, up-and-coming Allene's star sparkled as she fielded well, then slashed it out to grab honour by two useful bingles. More good performances are expected from this rising player.

Dorothy Park, Pirates—One-girl resistance was offered by peppery Dorothy as she again defied opposition by hitting back. She had two hits of the three her team managed.

Peter La, Chung Wah—Three hits in three attempts were the excellent return made by Peter. It was perfect, though it could not save his team from defeat by the mighty Saints.

Alvaro Xavier, VRC—Speedy Alvaro again shone. The steady infielder swiped a couple of stinging hits to be in front of all in the VRC victory over the hard-hitting Americans, who played most creditably before losing 5-3.

Rennie Bequeira and Spikes Gutierrez, Madcaps—Madcaps won convincingly against the erstwhile sole leading Canadians, whose championship stock came tumbling down as a result. The powerful Canadians played listless ball.

Rennie's and Spikes' all-round displays earn them mention. Rennie scored 1,000 in class clutch hitting which pushed in runs.

The victors played heads-up ball, executing two double plays, in which Spikes figured in one. He hit well, too. Buster Holland's Madcappers look as if they are going to town.

They have now proved that they are a force that takes some beating and gives plenty of it. They are well in on the race. A sporting, popular gang, their supporters are many. Good luck, you Madcappers!

Sidekick: A Very Merry—And A 191-Ful—Christmas!

## THE SOCCER PARSON

## Awards A Free Kick Against Himself

By J. W. TAYLOR

The Reverend Robert Jack, Scottish soccer parson, referees Icelandic matches in which he plays centre-forward and often whistles for a free kick against himself! Amateur footballer at the time, he took the game to Iceland upon being appointed as football coach there.

He liked Iceland and her people so much that he decided to stay there. So he became an Icelandic national and studied for the Lutheran Church of Iceland. He was the only foreigner to be ordained on the island for 670 years.

They sent him to Grimsey, a tiny island 45 miles from the mainland, where the Arctic and the Atlantic meet. A 75-ton mailboat links it with the outside world during the summer months. In the winter, Grimsey is completely cut off, except for radio telephone communication.

There he introduced football. He still plays centre-forward for the island team which crosses to adjacent islands in the summer for fortnightly games. There are 24 boys on Grimsey between 16 and 25. None of them can referee a game, so Mr Jack referees as well as plays. The lads are delighted when he sometimes orders a free kick for his own infringement.

Mr Jack has just arrived back in his native Scotland for a brief spell. He is also a farmer on Grimsey and wants to buy some farm implements, as well as plead for a helicopter service to the island he has "adopted." He wants the machine to be available for taking sick parishioners over to the Icelandic mainland in emergencies.



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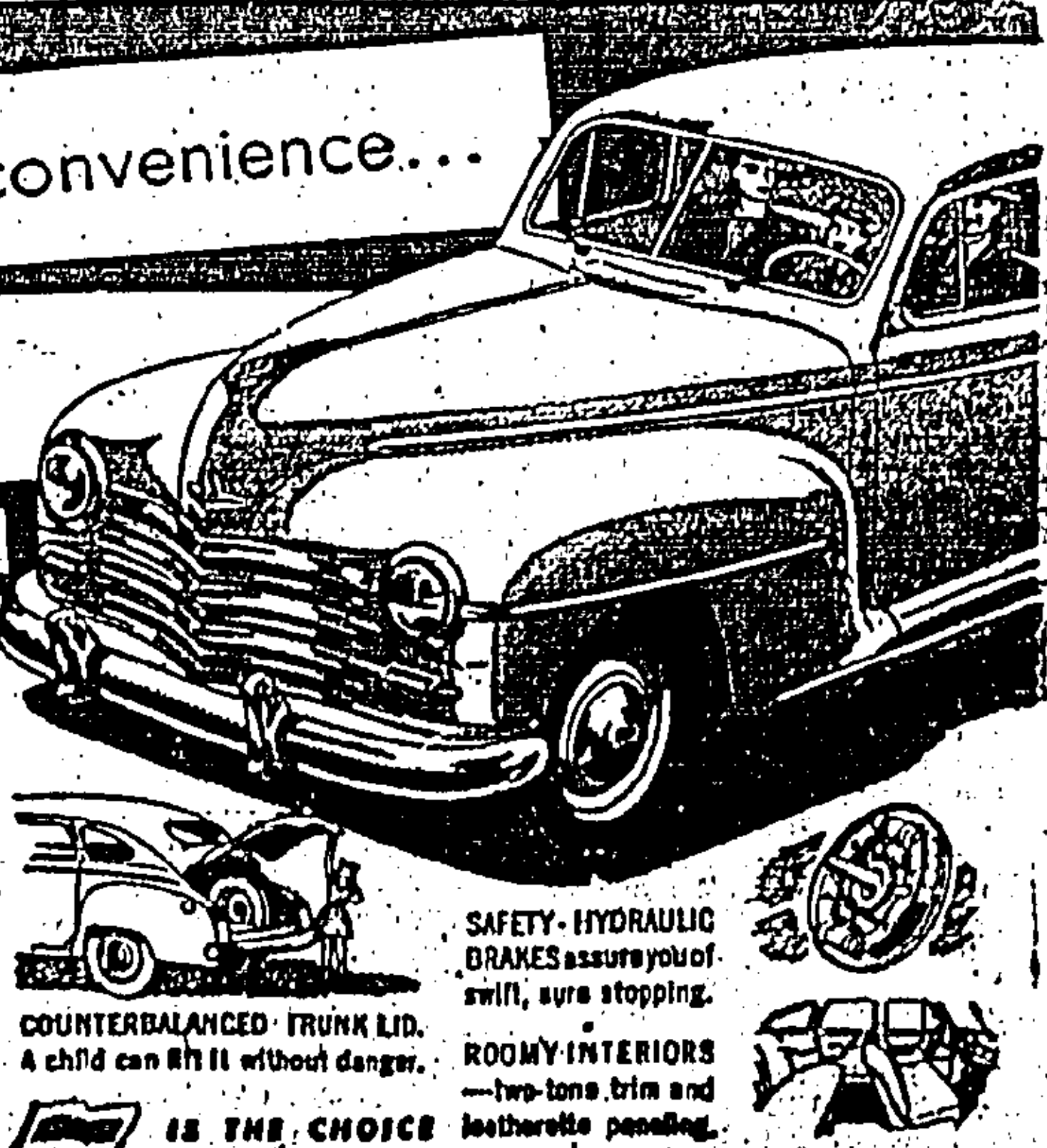
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## DAB and FLOUNDER

By WALTER



## FROM HERE AND THERE:

## Three Eggs For The Queens' Crews

NEW YORK: There is a restaurant in New York where they always serve three eggs with bacon and eggs. That is because the patrons of this restaurant are the British seamen of the Queens. But that is not the only service the seamen get from Mr. Isidore Zeln and his restaurant. He changes their pounds for them. The most you can win by getting a pound note from a New York bank is 12s. worth of dollars. But Mr. Zeln always pays 15s. Said he: "I opened my place just across from the Queens' dock with one thought in mind. I said no seaman will ever be gyped. And if any of my fellows try funny stuff, I just toss them out."

## MODESTY

NEW YORK: In Atlanta, Georgia, police have given orders that shops must draw the blinds when they are changing the clothes on their window dummies.

## APE-BOY DISCOVERY

JOHANNESBURG: Half a million years ago someone hit a 12-year-old ape-boy in the face, knocked out his front teeth and killed and ate him. This is the deduction of Professor Raymond Dart, noted anthropologist of Witwatersrand University, following the finding of a skull in the Makapansgat Valley near Potgietersrus, which he declared is older than the Peking Man or Java Ape-Man.

## BOOMERANG DEATH

DARWIN: An aborigine warrior named Wah Ring Juara went on a visit to a neighbouring tribe for a big corroboree. When he returned, he found that someone had tampered with the sacred tribal relics which no-one but a warrior was allowed to touch. He "scented out" the culprit and threw his boomerang. It came whistling back, hit his young lubra wife on the temple and killed her instantly.

## ROCKY SERENADE

ROME: Teresina Amato, a 10-year-old beauty of a village near Salerno, annoyed by the serenade of a shepherd, Nicola Rocco, 22, tossed a rock from the window, killing him.

## SOME PICK(N)IC

MELBOURNE: The world's largest sapphire, a blue corundum as big as a turkey's egg, was picked up by Mrs. Roy McKinney, a miner's wife, at a Sunday picnic at Ruby Vale, Queensland. Her sapphire, which was sold for an unstated sum, weighs 1,958 carats. It is bigger than the previous record sapphire, the "Black Star," found last May in the same district.

## LAST RITES

JOHANNESBURG: Nobody has ever found a dead elephant in Africa and Major J. F. Cumming, a Sudan District Commissioner, claims to have solved the mystery. He shot an elephant near the source of the Nile, and when he returned the next day the body had vanished. He found it buried in shallow grave which had obviously been dug by the tusks of other elephants.

## GEORGE MALCOLM THOMSON, reviewing the NEW BOOKS, picks an outstanding novel by a young Londoner . . .

THE EDGE OF DARKNESS. By John Prebble. Secker and Warburg. 245 pages. 10s. 6d. HIS outstanding novel of the war is by a Londoner, aged 32. Prebble is the son of a chief petty officer, RN. He was brought up in Canada, and is now a London journalist.

His book is remarkable for:  
1. Its writing. Powerful, new-cut, insistent. "The adders' tongues of gun flashes flickered wickedly. The war was sincere at night."  
2. Its characters. A handful of men picked out of Monty's armies. Soldiers who are not altogether false, how much they enjoyed it all.

Their discipline is poor. They loot. They speak boastfully about their inefficiency. They are unheroic, brave, nervous. Each is an individual, with his passport to our credence duly visted.

Only Smith, the fat, frightened unpopular officer, is aware of what the war is doing to them, of the uncomfortable probing and self-discovery going on within each mind.

3. The brooding theme which runs through this study of male society: of the ruin overwhelming British, Germans, all Europe, reaching its climax in dreadful Hamburg.

There, the physical impact of war, its fear and tension, passes to be replaced by a nagging bewilderment.

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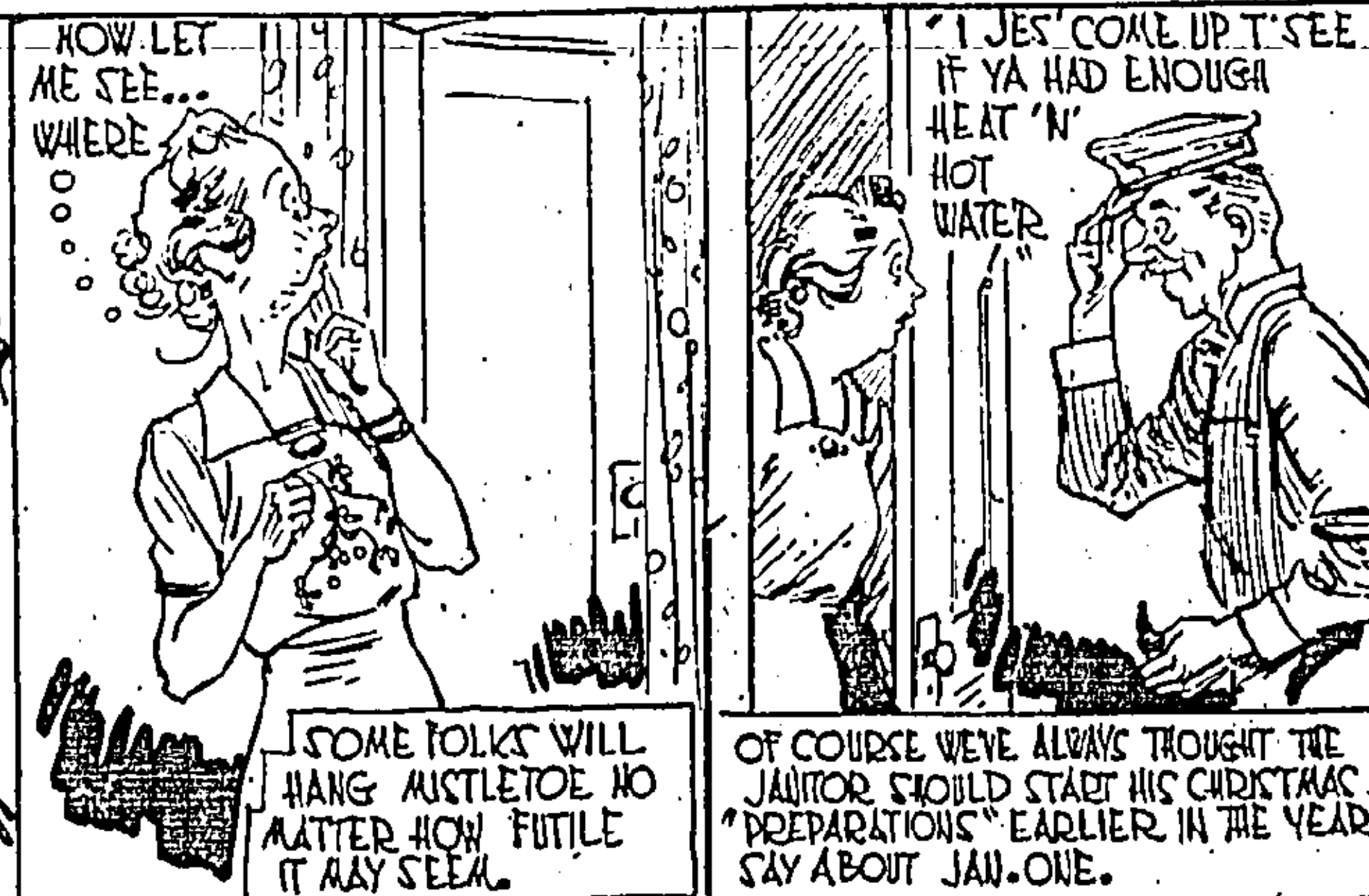
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